



P7 STATE

JU TO BE DECLARED INNOVATION, RESEARCH HUB UNDER NEP: KANSAL

Jammu University will be declared an innovation and Research hub under the New National Education Policy (NEP). This was announced by the Principal Secretary

P5

EIGHT CHANGES THE WORLD NEEDS TO MAKE TO LIVE WITH COVID

More and more people have been asking for a return to normal, and with omicron waning, governments are starting to act. The UK, for example, is removing its remaining public health measures, including mandatory self-isolation



P8 SPORTS

MAYANK AGARWAL NAMED CAPTAIN OF PUNJAB KINGS

Opener Mayank Agarwal was on Monday named the captain of Punjab Kings for the upcoming Indian Premier League. A member of the Indian Test team, the 31-year-old



Widom Quote!
Imagination is more important than knowledge
-Albert Einstein

NEWS DIGEST

LG Prays For Peace, Prosperity

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Monday extended his greetings to people of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir on the eve of Shab-e-Meraj. In his message of felicitations, the Lt Governor said the auspicious **More on P6**

Leopard Seen Near Nashri Naka On Highway

RAMBAN: The district police here have issued an advisory, asking people to remain careful after a leopard was spotted near Nashri naka in Ramban district. As per district police Ramban, late in the evening on Sunday, one leopard was **More on P6**

IAF Airlifts 123 Stranded Passengers

JAMMU: The Indian Air Force on Monday airlifted a total of 123 passengers stranded at various places in Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh owing to the closure of 434-km Srinagar-Leh National Highway owing to heavy snowfall, an official said. **More on P6**

Ladakh Reports 11 New Covid Cases

LEH: Ladakh reported 11 fresh COVID-19 cases all in Leh taking the overall caseload in the union territory to 28,003, while the active cases reduced to 166, officials said on Monday. Ladakh has recorded 228 COVID-related deaths 168 in Leh and 60 in Kargil. No fresh death was reported, they said. **More on P6**

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Police Officer Injured In Srinagar Militant Attack

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: A police inspector with the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Monday was shot at and injured by suspected militants in Batamaloo area of this capital city.

According to officials, suspected militants opened fire upon inspector, Sheikh Firdous, when he was returning home after offering prayers at the nearby mosque in Dhobi Mohalla, Batamaloo on Monday evening.

Firdous, they said, received a gunshot wound in his neck and was removed to the nearby SMHS hospital for treatment.

Medical Superintendent, SMHS, Dr. Kanwaljeet Singh said that the condition of the injured police officer was stable.

"#Terrorists fired upon police Inspector Sheikh Firdous of #Batamaloo while he was returning from mosque after offering prayers. Shifted to hospital where his condition is stated to be stable. Area has been #cordoned off. Further details shall follow," Kashmir Police posted on its official Twitter handle.

On January 28, a policeman had a miraculous **More on P6**

Dargah Reverberates With Durood On Shab-e-Meraj After 3 Years

Zaid Bin Shabir

SRINAGAR: With COVID-19 cases on the wane thousands of devout Muslims in Kashmir on Monday flocked to mosques and shrines on the eve of Shab-e-Meraj, (the night of ascent) when the Prophet Muhammad (Pbuh) ascended to the heavens.

Notably, Muslims every year celebrate on 27th of Rajab (Hijri calendar), the Isra and Meraj, the two parts of a Night Journey that prophet took during a single night around the year 621. Within Islam it signifies a physical journey.

During Meraj, the command for five daily prayers (Nimaz) was also given to the Prophet of Islam.

A large number of devotees from the different parts of the Valley thronged Dargah Hazratbal shrine, housing the relic of the Prophet. It was after three years night long prayers were held at Dargah. Emotional scenes were witnessed at dargah when the holy relic was displayed after



KO Photo Abid Bhat

every prayer during which they raised their hands for prayer.

Officials said that it was expected that a huge gathering will be witnessed at Hazratbal shrine, but the congregation in view of the cold weather conditions remained low.

However reports said the rush of the devotees kept on growing in the late night hours.

Special prayers on Shab-e-Meraj were also offered at many other shrines and mosques in the Kashmir valley

including Khanqah-e-Mualla, Dastgeer Sahib Khanyar, Ziyarat Syed Sahib Sonwar Ziyarat Makhdoom Sahib, Jinab Sahib Soura, Aasar-i-Sharief Shahri Kailashpora besides in major shrines in other parts of Kashmir.

Over 300 Vehicles Stuck On Banihal Highway

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: A massive landslide blocked the strategic 270-km Jammu-Srinagar national highway in Udhampur district early Monday, leaving hundreds of vehicles stranded, officials said.

The landslide struck the highway, the only all-weather road linking Kashmir with the rest of the country, at Dewal near Samroli around 2.45 am, the officials said.

Senior Superintendent of Police, traffic (national highway), Shabir Ahmad Malik said road clearance agencies have pressed men and machinery and efforts are on to make the highway traffic worthy.

"No fresh traffic was allowed either from Jammu or Srinagar this morning in view of the closure of the highway, he said, adding over 300 Jammu-bound trucks and some passenger vehicles were left stranded due to the closure of the highway.

The blocking of the highway also forced **More on P6**

Youth From Pak Kashmir Held Along LoC

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: A resident of Pakistan-controlled -Kashmir (PCK) was apprehended on Monday by the Army along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district, officials said.

Dilshan (27), a resident of Harija village, was taken into custody from Nangi Takri area of Mankote sector shortly after he crossed into this side from across the border, the officials said.

The alert Army troops guarding the LoC noticed his movement and challenged him when he entered into the Indian side, the officials said, adding he was subsequently detained for questioning to ascertain his motive.

Jamia Masjid Likely To Reopen After 30 Week Closure



Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir PK Pole and Inspector General of Police (IGP) Vijay Kumar visited Jamia Masjid on Monday.

Auqib Javeed

SRINAGAR: Ahead of the holy month of Ramazan, the historic Jamia Masjid in the Old City of Srinagar is likely to reopen for prayers after remaining closed for over 30 weeks.

On Monday, Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir PK Pole visited the grand Masjid to review the preparedness. The Div com was accompanied by Inspector General of Police (IGP) Vijay Kumar.

Sources in the administration told Kashmir Observer that a decision regarding the

opening of Jamia Masjid is likely to be taken in the next few days.

The officials also met the Imam of the Grand Mosque and also the members from the Auqaf Jamia Masjid in this regard. Jamia Masjid, the 14th century building, is the major place of worship in the Kashmir Valley closed for congregational prayers by the authorities.

For the third consecutive year the authorities didn't allow the special prayers on Shab-e-Meraj, the night of ascent when the Holy Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) **More on P6**

Covid III Wave Ebbs, 42 Test Positive

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Indicating an end to the third Coronavirus wave, Jammu and Kashmir reported on Monday 42 fresh cases of virus, even as no fresh fatality was registered in the Union Territory during the last 24 hours.

According to officials, the daily cases of Covid-19 dipped further with Jammu division reporting 22 new cases of infection and Kashmir Valley 20 during the last 24 hours.

In the Valley, six Covid-19 cases each were reported from Srinagar and Baramulla, Budgam 3, Kupwara and Kulgam 2 each and Bandipora 1. The four districts of Ganderbal, Shopian, Anantnag and Pulwama detected no new cases of Coronavirus.

In the winter capital, officials said, Jammu detected the highest 11 new cases of virus, three each in Doda and Poonch, Udhampur and Kathua 2 each and one new case in Ramban, Rajouri, Samba, Kishtwar and Reasi registered no fresh cases of Covid-19.

"Moreover, 148 more COVID-19 patients have recovered and **More on P6**

...Delimitation Exercise

Panel To Make Report Public After March 4

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The delimitation commission constituted by the Government of India to redraw J&K's electoral map is set to unveil its draft proposal for feedback from different stakeholders immediately after March 4.

Sources said that the delimitation panel is expected to put its re-framed proposal in public domain after March 4.

"The commission has incorporated certain suggestions made by MPs from Jammu &

Kashmir who are its associate members. It has sent the re-worked proposals to MPs, asking them to submit their views by March 04," they said, adding that the proposals would be put in public domain after MPs submit their suggestions/objections.

They said dissenting note, if any, from MPs would also be put in public domain.

According to sources, the commission would also issue a notice, asking general public and other stakeholders to submit their **More on P6**

Govt Making Database Of 5 Lakh Youth To Map Their Job Needs

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Chief Secretary A K Mehta on Monday asked officials to build a database of five lakh young people of the union territory by April-end in an effort to map their job requirements.

Mehta was chairing a meeting to review the progress

under Mission Youth, an ambitious programme to empower 50,000 unemployed youth in Jammu and Kashmir through gainful employment.

"The youth in J&K need to be skilled according to their needs and aspirations to enable them to have not only gainful employment, but also a sense of dignity in the jobs they do," the

chief secretary said.

There is a need to sharply focus on skilling and upskilling the youth to not only empower them for better jobs but to enable them to set up their own ventures, he said.

Mehta said skilling and upskilling programmes have to be anchored in the concept of 'learn to earn'. **More on P6**

WAR IN UKRAINE

Stranded Kashmiri Students Make Frantic Calls For Evacuation

'If This War Doesn't Kill Us, I'm Sure We'll Die Of Hunger'

Zaid Bin Shabir

SRINAGAR: Hundreds of Kashmiri students stranded in the war-torn Ukraine and at the surrounding borders are consistently sending frantic messages to the Government and the Indian embassy in the neighbouring countries, urging them

for evacuation without any further delay as "staying in the turbulent country is turning fatally risky with each passing minute".

Most of these students are stranded in three major cities of Ukraine including Kharkiv and Kyiv—two of those main regions where the Russian forces first moved in after the war broke out as they are closer to the Russian border.

"We were hoping that the Indian government will do something for students like us who are stuck in Kyiv and Kharkiev,



SOME SUPERMARKETS STILL HAVE THESE ITEMS AVAILABLE but unfortunately as soon as we try to enter that shop, they lash out at us and ask us to leave. They're only providing these things to local Ukrainians. We are literally eating the leftover food. If this war doesn't kill us, I'm pretty sure we'll die of hunger."

either by arranging flights or by the embassy helping us get to the border," Asif, who has been living in the subway station-turned underground shelter for the past five days, told Kashmir Observer over phone. "Instead,

they're asking us to shift to borders on our own. They have not started any evacuations from Kharkiv and kyiv. Here bombings takes place every few hours and sometimes even minutes, but the embassy are evacuating

7 Dead, 37 Injured In City Of Kharkiv

Ukrainian authorities say at least 44 people have been wounded in fighting in Ukraine's second-largest city of Kharkiv, and that seven of them died in hospitals. It wasn't clear if the casualties, which covered the past 24 hours, were all civilians. The state emergencies agency said the casualties could be higher because the damage from Monday's shelling of residential areas is still being assessed. Ukrainian social networks **More on P6**

people from Chernivtsi and Odessa which has hardly seen any intense fighting."

Notably, India has evacuated hundreds of students since Russia started its military operation last week. The students who had managed to cross the border into Romania and Hungary were shifted on a special evacuation flight that was arranged by the Indian government.

Pertinently, majority of those

evacuated students were from Ukraine's western and south western parts which are comparatively peaceful in comparison to Ukraine's east. It is here in the three main cities—Sumy, Kharkiv and the capital city, Kyiv, where the majority of Kashmiri students are stranded either in their apartments or in underground shelters.

As per reports, the first special evacuation flight had lifted 219

stranded Indian students who had made it to Romanian capital Bucharest. The second flight carrying 250 students had arrived in New Delhi on Sunday afternoon from Romania. Many other students who had managed to reach Hungary border mostly by walking, are being evacuated through Hungarian capital Budapest.

"The Indian embassy has issued an advisory claiming that the curfew has been lifted and asking us to leave and reach the border in either Hungary, Romania, Poland or Moldova." Shahid Habib told Kashmir Observer over a phone call from Kharkiv, the theatre of fierce fighting.

"But what the embassy isn't telling people is that we've to cross either through Kyiv or Sumy to reach the border, that too, by walking as no cab is available here. **More on P6**



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How to Stop Overthinking Everything: 5 Expert Strategies to Calm Your Mind

Heather Tirado Gilligan | Fatherly.Com

We all ruminate sometimes. But if you're still kicking yourself because your kid caught COVID at a family gathering last year or replaying that awkward Zoom meeting on a loop in your brain, you're trapping yourself in your own head — which can be exhausting and harmful for your mental health. Overthinking is a common trap to fall into, and there are ways to break the habit.



Overthinking is closely connected to unhappiness. Yale psychologist Susan Nolen-Hoeksema famously linked rumination, the clinical term for overthinking, to depression. Unlike concern or even worry, which can lead us toward productive action, overthinking is circular, an endless cycle of chewing over what's already happened, from small social missteps to life-changing choices.

Now, it's important to further understand the distinction between overthinking and worrying. "Worrying is helpful when it can lead to an action that will actually reduce risk in some way," explains Katie Gordon, Ph.D., a licensed clinical psychologist who specializes in cognitive-behavioral therapy and author of The Suicidal Thoughts Workbook. A parent who is worried about a proposal to lift a mask mandate at their child's school, for example, may feel motivated to speak out at a school board meeting.

But if you're kind of repeating thoughts over and over again once you've done those things in your control and you find that it's amplifying the anxiety without leading to a helpful action, then that, per Gordon, can be an indication that its rumination.

Signs that you've crossed the line from productive concern to troublesome overthinking include sleeplessness and disruptions in your relationship, according to Alice Boyes, Ph.D., a former therapist and author of The Anxiety Toolkit:

Strategies for Fine-Tuning Your Mind and Moving Past Your Stuck Points. If you're thinking yourself in circles instead of sleeping, it might be time to consider some changes. The same is true for irritability. If, per Boyes, "you're finding that you're getting irritable with people because you've got this second level of stress that's making your fuse shorter," then it's worth taking some steps. So if you are stuck in a cycle of overthinking, what can you do to break the habit? Here are a few straightforward strategies to consider.

1. Go easy on yourself

Adopting the habit of self-compassion, or treating yourself with the same empathy that most of us would naturally offer to someone else in distress, is one way to beat rumination. "It's basically acknowledging what you're feeling, not pushing it away, not making it bigger or smaller," said Boyes. "It's naming the specific emotions that you're feeling, like feeling anxious or feeling embarrassed or guilty." When you reflect on your feelings, remember that how you're feeling is human and that all people experience the same kinds of feelings. Rumination is being stuck in your head, and by helping you connect

with others, self-compassion, helps you escape. Psychologist Kristin Neff, who studies self-compassion, acknowledges that people are often reluctant to treat themselves empathetically. She suggests taking a self-compassion break when you feel pain or other emotional turmoil. Pause for as little as two minutes, speak to yourself with kind words, place your hands over your heart, and remember that even if you feel alone, you aren't.

2. Hey, look over there! Distraction is an excellent way to get back on track when you find yourself overthinking. Practice a new song on an instrument. Cook a new recipe. It's best to try something new when you're trying to distract yourself, as it will demand more of your focus and keep you out of your head. "If you're an experienced knitter, you can do that and ruminate at the same time," Boyes warned. "But if you're never knitted before, and you are watching a video and trying to knit along, then it is a good cognitive distraction."

3. Embrace "worry time"

The concept of worry time is one tool used in cognitive behavioral therapy to help people manage overthinking. To try it, set aside 10-20 minutes a day. Per Gordon,

you want to tell yourself that's the time you're going to let your mind just go and think about whatever is causing you to overthink. The trick is to then do your best to confine your rumination to the time you've set aside. "Any other time during the day when I start thinking about it, I'm going to just gently remind myself that I have a time aside time later," she says. Though this technique may sound overly simplistic, it does seem to help. "You're not telling your mind, just push away the thoughts," she says. "You're just kind of saying, 'I'm going to address that later.'"

4. Acknowledge your lack of control

Rumination, according to Gordon, is one of the most common reasons why people see a therapist. Interestingly enough, she thinks the pandemic may have helped some of her patients with their overthinking tendency because the ongoing uncertainty of the past two years has forced us to acknowledge that we have limited control over our circumstances. That acknowledgment means we spend less time agonizing over choices we have already made. This far into the pandemic, we understand that we are doing the best we can with the — often imperfect — information at hand.

Gordon suggested a strategy from the therapist Dr. Russ Harris, author of The Happiness Trap. "Identify what's in your control, what are your values, and the actions that best align with that," Gordon explained. "And then it's cultivating acceptance that you can't know for sure what the best action was."

Accepting a lack of control is hard, per Gordon, particularly for parents who have had to make big decisions under less-than-ideal circumstances throughout the pandemic. No one wants to say "I took all the information I had, and I'm going to have to make my best guess," she noted, especially when we're thinking about our kids. Nevertheless, "we don't know for sure what's going to be the best thing." "That acceptance," she added, "can be a meaningful lesson."

5. Consider seeking therapy

When Boyes was a practicing therapist, she started sessions with a new client by asking them how long they'd been experiencing their issues before they sought therapy. "It was almost always years," she said. "The general pattern is for people to wait far, far too long." If you are thinking about going to therapy, that's a good sign that you should go to therapy, Boyes added. People tend to think of therapy as a long-term commitment, Boyes said, but it doesn't have to be a months- or years-long process. "There is a type of therapy they call single-session cognitive behavioral therapy, which is just based on a single session." People can use the session to make a plan to tackle overthinking and consider coming back in a month or so to talk about how the plan is working or how it needs to be tweaked. The toe-dipping is certainly something to consider. A benefit to using these strategies for combating overthinking, Boyes added, is that your child gets to see you working through some challenging situations and emotions. And that will help your kids develop these essential skills, too.

Condolence Message

A Condolence cum remembrance meeting of officers/officials of Economics and Statistics Service Cadre was held today on 28-02-2022 under the Chairmanship of Mr. Gh. Mohamad Hajam, Regional Director, E&S Kashmir in his office Chambers to mourn the sad demise of Mr. Basharat Ahmad Makhdoomi, (Ex. Regional Director, E&S Kashmir) who left for heavenly abode. Besides, Mr. Gulam Ahmad Qureshi (Ex-Director General Economics & Statistics Department) and Mr. Athar Hussain Qadri (Director, Statistical Training School, Srinagar) also participated in the meeting.



The Regional Director threw light on the contribution of the departed soul in the Department and was also remembered for his adroit approach in decision making. The Departed soul was prayed for eternal bliss and for forbearance to bereaved family in this hour of insupportable grief. Two minutes silence was also observed to pay respect to the departed soul.

From:
Gh. Mohammad Hajam,
Regional Director, E&S Kashmir.

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Office Of The Assistant Regional Transport Officer Budgam Kashmir NOTICE

Whereas an application has been received from one. Shri : Sahil Ahmad Bhat S/o: Gulam Hassan Bhat R/o: Bathar Near Daral uloom Sebdan owner of vehicle bearing Registration No: JK04G 2713 for cancellation of hire purchase agreement with M/S Chola Mandlam investment B/U Nowgam Srinagar.



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

No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.5906
Dated 28/02/2022
Assistant Regional Transport officer
Budgam Kashmir

rna

Office Of The Assistant Regional Transport Officer Budgam Kashmir NOTICE

Whereas an application has been received from one. Shri : Manpreet Singh Raina S/o: Amreek Singh Raina R/o: Dharam Sala Singhan Chadora Budgam owner of vehicle bearing Registration No: JK04D 6949 for cancellation of hire purchase agreement with M/S J&K Bank B/U Sainik Colony Jammu.



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

No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.5907
Dated 28/02/2022
Assistant Regional Transport officer
Budgam Kashmir

mcb

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost my wallet from Achabal Adda To Kp Road Which Contains , Adhar Card Atm Card Driving Licence Jk032018006858 And Other Personal Documents. If anybody has found he/she is requested to return the same otherwise I have to apply for the duplicate of the same documents. In this regard anybody having any objection may contact concerned officers within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

TAWSEEF NABI
S/O GH NABI MIR
R/O KAMAD
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PUBLIC NOTICE

I have applied for the issuance of DEE Class Contractor Card from R&B Office. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his /her objection in the office of the Super Intending Engineer R&B Circle Anantnag /Kulgam Khanabal within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

NAME:- Mohd Jaber Kassana
S/O :- Abdul Aziz Kassana
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معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں سائل نے ایک درخواست بغرض حصول RBA سرٹیفکیٹ دفتر ہذا میں پیش کیا ہے۔ اس بارے میں تاملہ فیملڈ سے رپورٹ طلب کیا گیا جس سے عیاں ہے کہ سائل کا کنڈیشن ہذا میں گزشتہ چند سالوں سے رہائش پذیر ہے سائل کی مہارت 19300 سے اور سائل کا کنڈیشن پڑیل ہے۔

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04	عادل غنی پسر	23	زیر تعلیم	
05	آصف غنی پسر	18	زیر تعلیم	

اس کے علاوہ اور کوئی افراد نہیں بتلایا گیا ہے۔ لہذا ازیر بحث سرٹیفکیٹ اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی نذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دن کے اندر داخل کرنا پڑے گا۔ ورنہ جوت پیش کرے۔ معیا گڈار نے بعد کوئی نذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
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بغرض حصول لیگل بیئر سٹیفکیٹ
اشتبہ برادر آگاہی ہرخاص و عام۔
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متوفی کا کاتبہ 03 افراد پر مشتمل ہے۔ سرٹیفکیٹ اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی اعتراض ہو تو وہ دفتر ہذا میں سات دن کے اندر داخل کرے۔ بعد از معیا گڈار نے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
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(تحریر الصدور میگزین کیلئے مجسٹریٹ درجہ اول)

The Jammu And Kashmir State Board Of School Education
BRANCH OFFICE MAGAM
The candidates whose photograph is published in this notice is claiming to have lost the original marks certificate of 12th under Below mentioned particulars
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S/O Abdul Rashid Bhat
R/O Sulnda Tangmarg
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Sd/ Assistant Secretary
Sub Office Magam
bmg

ازنیابت ہرودہ شوروہ
مضمون درخواست منجانب:- شہید اختر دتتر گاہا لون ساکنہ ہدی پورہ تحصیل وترگام برادر اندراج کرنے تاریخ فوتگی والد خود سنی غلام محمولون ولد عبدالعزیز لون
اشتبہ برادر آگاہی ہرخاص و عام۔
معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں درخواست سائل دفتر ہذا میں زیر کاروائی ہے اس نسبت نمودار وچو کیدار حلقے سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی ہے جس سے عیاں ہے کہ سائل غلام محمد لون ولد عبدالعزیز لون ساکنہ ہدی پورہ مورخہ 14-03-2017 کو فوت ہو چکا ہے اس سائل اپنے مرحوم والد کی تاریخ فوتگی متعلقہ حلقے میں اندراج کرنے کا خواہاں ہے سائل کے کاندھات دفتر ہذا میں زیر کاروائی ہے۔
اگر کسی شخص یا شخص کو کوئی نذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا نذر یا اعتراض ساتھیہ سوم کے اندر پیش کریں۔ معیا گڈار نے بعد کوئی نذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
نائب تحصیلدار
fko

ازنیابت ہرودہ شوروہ
مضمون کاغذات درخواست منجانب ارشاد احمد لون ولد غلام محمد الدین لون ساکنہ ہرودہ شوروہ بابت حصول تاریخ پیدائش سرٹیفکیٹ بحق پسر حاشم ارشاد
اشتبہ برادر آگاہی ہرخاص و عام۔
معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں درخواست سائل حصول تاریخ پیدائش سرٹیفکیٹ بحق پسر حاشم ارشاد مورخہ 18-04-2009 زیر کاروائی ہے۔ اس نسبت ہرخاص و عام کو پیدائش سرٹیفکیٹ حاصل کیا جاتا ہے۔ اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی نذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا نذر یا اعتراض ساتھیہ سوم کے اندر پیش کرے۔ معیا گڈار نے بعد کوئی بھی نذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا
نائب تحصیلدار
mks

ازنیابت دیلگام با اجلاس نائب تحصیلدار دیلگام
مضمون درخواست منجانب:- توحیدہ امین دختر محمد امین بٹ ساکنہ کامر تحصیل ضلع انت ناگ
بغرض حصول RBA سرٹیفکیٹ
اشتبہ برادر آگاہی ہرخاص و عام۔
معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں سائل نے ایک درخواست بغرض حصول ایک وارڈار با سرٹیفکیٹ دفتر ہذا میں پیش کیا ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے۔ پٹواری حلقے سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی جس سے عیاں ہے کہ سائل کا کنڈیشن پڑیل افراد ہیں۔

نمبر شمار	نام و ولدیت	عمر	پیشہ	سالانہ آمدنی
01	عبدالغفار بٹ ولد غلام تارار	75 سال	عمر سیدہ	
02	فاطمہ بیگم زوجہ عبدالغفار بٹ	72 سال	عمر سیدہ	
03	محمد امین بٹ ولد عبدالغفار بٹ	46 سال	دکانداری	15000/=
04	شہزادہ بانو زوجہ محمد امین بٹ	44 سال	گھریلو کام	
05	آقرہ جان دختر محمد امین بٹ	22 سال	self employee	
06	توحیدہ امین دختر محمد امین بٹ	20 سال	زیر تعلیم	
07	راسک امین ولد محمد امین بٹ	18 سال	زیر تعلیم	
08	فصیل امین ولد محمد امین بٹ	17 سال	زیر تعلیم	

اس کے علاوہ اور کوئی افراد نہیں بتلایا گیا ہے۔ لہذا ازیر بحث سرٹیفکیٹ اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی نذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دن کے اندر داخل کرنا پڑے گا۔ ورنہ جوت پیش کرے۔ معیا گڈار نے بعد کوئی نذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
تحریر الصدور نائب تحصیلدار۔
na

ازنیابت دیر پورہ با اجلاس غلام محمد الدین بٹ صاحب
مضمون درخواست منجانب:- محمد رفیق خان ولد عبدالرحمان خان ساکنہ زبیر پورہ تحصیل مشن
بغرض حصول RBA سرٹیفکیٹ
اشتبہ برادر آگاہی ہرخاص و عام۔
معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں سائل نے ایک درخواست سرٹیفکیٹ دفتر ہذا میں پیش کیا ہے جس کی فوار پورٹ جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے۔ پٹواری حلقے سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی جس سے عیاں ہے کہ سائل بچھلے چند سالوں سے وہاں سکونت پذیر ہے۔

نمبر شمار	نام و ولدیت	عمر	پیشہ	آمدنی
1	عبدالرحمان خان ولد سید اللہ خان	62 سال	عمر سیدہ	
2	عطیہ بیگم زوجہ عبدالرحمان خان	60 سال	گھریلو کام	
3	محمد رفیق خان ولد عبدالرحمان خان	30 سال	دکانداری	10000/=
4	عشرت زوجہ محمد رفیق خان	26 سال	گھریلو کام	

اس طرح سائل کا کاتبہ 04 افراد پر مشتمل ہے۔ اور سائل کے کنڈیشن کوئی سرکاری ملازم ہو جو پیش ہے۔ سائل کے کاتبہ کے پاس دھندا 8 کال آٹا بھی موجود ہے۔ نجی سالانہ آمدنی
2,60,000/= ہزار روپیہ ہے۔ سائل کے کنڈیشن کی سالانہ آمدنی تمام ذرائع سے تقریباً آٹھ لاکھ روپیہ ہے۔ اس طرح سائل RBA سرٹیفکیٹ اجراء کرنے کی خواہش رکھتا ہے۔ اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی نذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دن کے اندر داخل کرنا پڑے گا۔ ورنہ جوت پیش کرے۔ معیا گڈار نے بعد کوئی بھی نذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
نائب تحصیلدار۔
na

Traffic Police Bars Journalists From Parking Vehicles At Press Enclave

Agencies
Srinagar: Traffic Police Monday barred Journalists from parking vehicles at press enclave Srinagar and lifted their vehicles from the Press Colony. Sources said that the Traffic police arrived at the Press Colony and lifted the parked vehicles. Jahangir Ahmed, a journalist who parks his vehicle at press colony said that he has seen lifting of vehicles taking place for the first time. "We are supposed to attend multiple events during the day, how many times will pay parking fee from our own pockets on daily basis", he said. He said unlike businessmen Journalists do not park their vehicles for the whole day. "Journalists are on the move all the time, we should be allowed to keep our vehicles at the press enclave," he said. Senior Superintendent of Police Traffic City, Muzaffar Shah while talking to media said "There is paid parking available and they should abide by the law," he said. (KNO)

DC Srinagar, SSP Cracks Whip On Drug Peddling

21 drug peddlers booked under PSA, 69 detained

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Intensifying and continuing raids at the hotspots of drug peddling and drug abuse under "MISSION WAAPSI", the District Administration Srinagar Monday evening launched a massive crackdown on drug peddling and drug abuse by conducting raids across Srinagar City to curb the menace of drugs and to break the supply chain in the district. The anti-drug operation was monitored personally by the District Magistrate, Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad and Senior Superintendent of Police, Rakesh Balwal. The raids were carried out at more than a dozen locations in all the Tehsils of the district during which 21 drug peddlers were arrested and booked under Public Safety Act (PSA), while 69 drug peddlers found in substance abuse on the spot were also detained under various provisions of CrPc.



As per official sources, recovery of large quantity of narcotics and proceeds of drugs (currency) was made during these raids. Pertinent to mention that the District Administration Srinagar has launched MISSION WAAPSI with the aim to save

and shall ensure that Srinagar District becomes free from the menace of drugs. With regard to rehabilitation of affected people, the DM said the District Administration will provide all possible support to the affected persons and shall help them settle in careers by extending benefit of various employment generation programmes of the government. He said by availing the benefits through different self-employment schemes they can earn livelihood with dignity and honour. The Senior Superintendent of Police Srinagar said operations against drug peddling and consumption shall continue with more vigor to tighten the noose against the drug dealers and peddlers to save youth from path of destruction. The raids were conducted in a coordinated manner by joint Teams of magistrates and police.

DC Srinagar Reviews Action Plan For Proposed Developmental Works

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad Monday chaired a meeting of officers at Meeting Hall of DC Office Complex, here to review the action plan for proposed developmental works under NABARD for year 2022-23 in the district. During the meeting a detailed discussion was held with regard to formulation and submission of a plan under NABARD component by R&B, PHE and Irrigation & Flood Control in congruence with the developmental needs of the district. On the occasion, the DC was apprised about the status of various ongoing projects and was given feedback about physical and financial status of all works taken up in current fiscal. The DC directed the concerned departments and executing agencies to expedite the work for timely completion of all projects.

While reviewing the action plan under NABARD for year 2022-23, the DC asked the officers to come up with a priority list and also with the focus on macadamization of roads in the district under City and Town scheme. The DC emphasized on early completion of all the approved projects. He stressed on regular monitoring of works and asked the officers to follow deadlines and complete the work within a given timeframe. He enjoined upon concerned officers and agencies to work with dedication so that all developmental targets are achieved. The DC also asked the officers to bring issues, if any, hindering developmental projects in his notice so that the same is resolved on priority to ensure timely completion of projects. Chief Planning Officer, Srinagar, Executive Engineers of R&B, I&FC, PHE and officers of other concerned departments were present in the meeting.

Today Is My Birthday



Ya Allah! Thank you so much for such a beautiful life, for beautiful family, for beautiful friends and for all the blessings. I'm Grateful for the gift of life and the lovely people that I am able to share life with. Alhamdulillah

I thank my family, my friends and everyone for the birthday wishes.

SHAKIR AFRIDI

DIAL-EMMA

- TRAFFIC POLICE : 9419993745, 01998-266686
- PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883
- PDD: 0194-2450213
- FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES : 2479488,2452222,2452155
- CAPD: 18001807011
- SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081
- Ambulance: Kashmir EMS Service: +91 94841 00200

AIRPORTS
SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311 ✈

RAILWAYS

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

HIGHWAY STATUS

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

PRAYERS

FAJR	5: 38
ZUHR	12:43
ASR	4:45
Magrib	6:29
ISHA	7: 49

HIJRI CALENDAR
27- Rajab
1443

This Day In History

- 1952 - Egyptian government-Ali Maher Pasha resigns
- 1953 - Joseph Stalin suffers a stroke and collapses. He dies four days later.
- 1954 - Rebellion in Egypt during visit of president Naguib to Khartoum, Sudan, 30 die
- 1954 - US explodes Castle Bravo, 15 megaton hydrogen bomb at Bikini Atoll - most powerful nuclear device ever detonated by the US
- 1955 - Israeli assault on Gaza, kills 48
- 1966 - Venera 3 becomes 1st man-made object to impact on a planet (Venus).
- 1982 - NY Times raises its price from 25 cents to 30 cents
- 1982 Russian spacecraft Venera 14 lands on Venus, sends back data
- 1983 Tornado tears through Los Angeles, injuring 33 people
- 1984 - Landsat 5 & ham satellite Oscar 11 launched into polar orbit
- 1985 - Pentagon accepts theory that atomic war would cause a nuclear winter.
- 1988 - Iraq says it launched 16 missiles into Tehran
- 1989 - The United States becomes a member of the Berne Convention copyright treaty.
- 2002 - U.S. invasion of Afghanistan: Operation Anaconda begins in eastern Afghanistan.
- 2002 - The Envisat environmental satellite successfully reaches an orbit 800 kilometers (500 miles) above the Earth on its 11th launch, carrying the heaviest payload to date at 8500 kilograms (9.5 tons).
- 2004 - Mohammed Bahr al-Uloom becomes President of Iraq.
- 2006 - English-language Wikipedia reaches its one millionth article, Jordanhill railway station.
- 2011 - Tomb of a 700 year old female mummy, discovered by road workers, opened in Taizhou, Jiangsu, China
- 2014 - 29 people are killed & 130 are injured by a group of knife-wielding terrorists at Kunming Railway Station, China
- 2014 - US President Barack Obama warns Russian President Vladimir Putin over involvement in Ukraine
- 2016 - Forbes Richest List released, Bill Gates No. 1 with \$75 billion, number of world's billionaires shrinks to 1,810
- 2016 - Gene for grey hair (IRF4) discovery announced by Scientists from University College London in "Nature Communications"
- 2016 - US primary elections: Super Tuesday - both Republican Donald Trump and Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton win seven state races each

From KO Archives

Distress Power Cut As GT Supply Stops

Observer News Service

SSRINAGAR Barely a few hours after the power development department PDD finalised revised curtailment schedule for the valley assuring around 12 hour power supply, authorities gave it a quit burial this evening. Even after the power minister, S S Slathia, directed continued 4-hour daily (7 pm to 11 pm) operation of gas turbines to improve power availability, the 5-unit Pampore turbines screeched to an abrupt halt following orders from above. According to reports authorities were forced to resort to distress load shedding of rural areas to enable maintain-ing minimum supply to the city and some major towns besides the essential services. The revised programme is to be further revised in keeping with the reduced availability ordered by the power managers in Jammu. Reports said the revised schedule, drawn up for 10 days, February 26 to March 7 had been worked out on the premise that about 100 megawatts of power would be available in addition to that imported from northern grid and local generation. The valley was divided into two groups. A and B. Calculat-ing a net availability of 430 mw to 460 mw, the revised schedule on even 'odd basis envisaged a fairly improved supply position. Meanwhile, according to sources, the power generation from Uri project had improved over the past few days following a marginal rise in the water level of the river. From a meagre 50 mw, it shot up to 140 mw on Saturday and Sunday. Even to-day, it hovered around 120 mw. The generation from the Lower Jhelum hydel project and other stations had also gone up appreciably. Contrary to governments claims of heavy dependence on imports from the northern grid, and even the common belief, sources said, the valley exported 40 mw of power to northern grid for a brief while on Saturday and Sunday However, the PDD preferred to keep a tight lid over the report to avoid any embarrassment. On Saturday, the power minister had himself told Kashmir Observer that uni-form supply would be ensured between rural and urban areas of the valley with the availability of 200 mw to 230 mw from northern grid. He had assured supply for nine hours on an average However, he okayed a further improvement to make it about 12 hours in 24 hours for which he ordered continued operation of (the gas turbine). Interestingly, the official handout issued after Slathia's Pampore visit yesterday boastfully screamed, "gas turbine in operation despite whip-ping daily expenditure". Reminis-cent of Mirza Galib's famous couplet ke merey qail ke baad us my jafa se tauba / hai us zood pashalman ka pashalman hona, he (Slathia) expressed regrets on the inconvenience faced by the people in the valley due to blast-ing of the transmission towers. Now that the 'generosity' has been unceremoniously withdrawn the minister's (read government's) regret has proved to be shockingly short-lived. Even as, in the absence of permanent restoration, the 220-KV and 132-KV transmission lines may prove to be too fragile, like a slender thread, to ensure sustained import of power, a question mark will continue to hang over the state government's role in ensuring an equitable distribution of electricity between Kashmir and Jammu. (Kashmir Observer, 01 March, 2001)

Office of The Regional Transport Officer Kashmir
NOTICE

Whereas, a joint application has been received from Shri Mohd Sadfar Mir S/o Mohd Ibrahim Mir R/o Balhama Sgr (Transferor) and Shri Shabir Ahmad Sheik S/O Amir Sheikh R/o Sheed jung Sgr (Transferee) for transfer of Maxi Cab carriage route Permit No 7699/MC Covering Vehicle No JOIS-2357.

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

Within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily News Paper Kashmir Observer. Seller and purchaser identified by the authorized representatives of M/S Naz TPT Co Namely Mohd Yaqoob

NOJK-RTOK 1621
Dated: 28/02/2022
ma

Sd/-
Regional Transport Office,
Kashmir

Office of The Regional Transport Officer Kashmir
NOTICE

Where as an application for transfer of ownership has been received from Muneer Ahmad Shah S/O Mohd Yousuf Shah R/O Rainawari Kachai Nandan Sgr (Transferor) of Baleno Delta bearing registration No. JK01AH-2674 chasis No: 442957 Engine No: 4389190 Model 2018 in favour of Rajeev Kumar Choudhary S/O Romesh Chander R/o Supwar Sojuwan Samba (BLA) (Transferee).

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

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

NOJK-RTOK 1643
Dated: 28/02/2022
FKO

Sd/-
Regional Transport Office,
Kashmir

Govt. of Jammu & Kashmir (UT)
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, JAL SHAKTI (PHE) MECHANICAL DIVISION SOUTH AWANTIPORA
Tele/fax: 01933/295537; Email Id: phemechsouth@gmail.com

CORRIGENDUM

Subject: Providing, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of 50 kva Air Cooled Diesel Generator Set at WSS Banimullah Gujjar Basti under Languishing Programme.

Reference: This Office ENIT No.: 64 of 2021-22 Dated: 12-02-2022 issued vide No: - JSD/PHE/MDSA/3945-47 Dated: 12/02/2022.

Due to no response of the above subjected and refered work, it stands cancelled and the work shall be tendered afresh. Inconvenience caused is regretted.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Jal Shakti (PHE) Mech. Division
South Awantipora

No:- JSD/PHE/MDSE/4164
Dated: 26/02/2022
DIPK-18789/21

Government of Jammu and Kashmir
JAL SHAKTI DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PHE MECHANICAL RURAL DIVISION, SRINAGAR, KASHMIR.

CORRIGENDUM- I

For the E-NIT No. PHE/MRD/TS/ 105 of 02/2022 DT: - 14/02/2022.issued vide this office No: - PHE/MRD /TS/2929-33 DT: - 14/02/2022 and published vide No: 2022_PHE_160546_1 is hereby cancelled due to technical reasons and fresh e-nit will be published in due course of time.

No: PHE/MRD/3092-96
Dated: 28-02-2022

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
PHE Mechanical Rural Division,
DIPK-18820/21

Union Territory Of Jammu & Kashmir
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
JalShakti Department Mechanical irrigation Division Anantnag HQ Awantipora
E-Mail: xnmidanantnag@gmail.com Tel/Fax: 01938-247951

Sub: E NIT NO 40 of 2021-22 Dated: 123.02.2022

EXTENSION

Due to bank holiday today on 26.02.2022,the dates for the above cited E NIT are hereby extended as :

Bid submission end date	02	03	2022	16:00PM.
Bid opening date	03	03	2022	11:00 AM.

All other terms and conditions shall remain same as laid down in original E NIT

No: MIDA/ 3797-3804
Date: 26.02.2022

Sd/=
Executive Engineer,
Mech. Irri. Div., Anantnag
H. Q. Awantipora

DIPK-18799/21

KASHMIR
OBSERVER

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K O V I E W

The Stakes In Ukraine

Four days after it began, the war in Ukraine looks nowhere closer to any resolution. Parties to the conflict - Russia on one side and NATO on the other - are in no mood to back down. Russia is unlikely to withdraw until it has achieved its strategic objectives. And which are to stop Ukraine from becoming a part of the western sphere of influence by joining NATO. The US and the European Union, on the other hand, have asked Russia to withdraw from Ukraine. They have also imposed severe economic sanctions on Kremlin. But immediately the sanctions are going to make little difference to Russia's pursuit of its military and strategic objectives. The war thus looks set to drag on for some time unless better sense prevails on all the parties including Ukraine and they see reason in negotiating their way out of the problem.

In a positive development, Russia and Ukraine have agreed to hold talks. However, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has rejected Belarus as a venue for talks saying the country is a party to the Russian invasion of Ukraine. He has named Warsaw, Bratislava, Istanbul, Budapest or Baku as alternative locations. But wherever the talks are eventually held, they could offer a way out of the current crisis, provided both sides are able to hammer out a compromise. But the positions of Russia and west-backed Ukraine have become so irreconcilable over the years that it looks highly unlikely that a solution is imminent.

The situation, meanwhile, is becoming fraught. Russian troops have already entered Kharkiv in Ukraine's second-largest city. Its aim seems to be to dislodge the current Ukrainian government and install a Russia-friendly government. Russia's objectives are unlikely to stop there. It also wants guarantees from NATO to stop its eastward expansion and NATO is unlikely to do so. This makes the situation very complicated and not amenable to an early solution. More so, when the west has already put economic sanctions on Russia and contemplating more of them.

At the larger level, the war has become a great power battle royale. America faces one of its severest tests as the world's sole superpower. Some western experts have already written the epitaph of America's unipolar moment. In that sense, it would be interesting to see who blinks first in this great power war of nerves. And that could decide the new super power of the world. But America, despite its recent setback in Afghanistan, its failure to have its way in Syria in the teeth of the opposition from Russia and Iran, remains the world's No 1 power. Its GDP and defence expenditure remains several times higher than its nearest competitor China. But in Ukraine we are at an interesting moment in history. The outcome of the war will determine the new global geopolitics if not the new super power of the world.

OTHER OPINION

The Abstention

India's abstention on the United Nations Security Council draft resolution "deploring in the strongest terms" Russia's invasion of Ukraine was in continuation of its balancing act on the crisis since the escalation began in January, keeping in mind its own interests, strategic imperatives and partnerships on both sides of the conflict. It was a foregone conclusion that Russia would use its veto against this resolution. Still, the vote on the draft offered India the opportunity to articulate in clear and strong terms its position on the issue — that there should be no messing with territorial integrity of states, and that the UN Charter and international law are sacrosanct — without taking sides despite pressures from both sides to do so. The tempering of the draft resolution over 24 hours from "condemnation" to "deploring", and the replacement of Chapter VII that authorises the Security Council to take measures including the use of force with Chapter VI that speaks of a peaceful resolution showed that nuance is everything in international realpolitik. India omitted reference to "legitimate security interests", a phrase that appeared in its previous formulations at the UNSC, giving them a pro-Russia tilt. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's appeal to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, hours after the vote in the Security Council, for political support in the UN to "stop the aggressor", helped Delhi further sharpen its position, conveying anguish at the loss of lives, reiterating the demand for a cessation of hostilities and a return to dialogue, and significantly, expressing a willingness "to contribute in any way towards peace efforts".

For sure, none of these statements and positions, whether in phone calls or at the Security Council horse-shoe, are etched in stone. The Ukraine crisis is developing by the minute, and Delhi will need to review its position accordingly. The Ukrainian president, who was hardly believed to be the right fit for high national office, is clearly a hero, one who knows how to use social media. Using these platforms to great effect, he has single-handedly marshalled the sympathy of people around the world in this David vs Goliath battle, inviting comparisons with how just a few months ago, the Afghan President upped and left the people of his country to deal with the Taliban on their own. Stories of brave Ukrainians taking on Russian soldiers has underlined how international law counts for nothing when weak countries are up against powerful nations. Casualties are bound to rise. As it fine-tunes its position, India will have to factor all this, particularly Russian President Vladimir Putin's international isolation and his loss of moral high ground as a "victim" of NATO's machinations. Even Putin's fast friend China, which has its own territorial problems, spoke about "territorial integrity" and abstained from the vote, even while nodding in the direction of Russia's legitimate security interests. And Germany, India's ally and an ever-reluctant power, is coming out of its long European cold to turn the heat on.

The Indian Express



From Barren Land To Thick Jungle

Success story of Community Forest Management
by Korku Tribe of Maharashtra

Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat

Last several days have been very hectic for me. I along with some colleagues including Chairman District Development Council Budgam Nazir Ahmad Khan are on a visit to Maharashtra's Vidarbha region to see the best practices on community based forest management. The Community Forest Management (CFM) has turned out to be a powerful approach in the management of forests across the globe. During the last few decades, the community based forest conservation methods have received a lot of international appreciation as there are a large number of success stories with regard to it. In response to some of the adverse effects of state forestry and commercial timber production, the community forest management (CFM) improves local livelihoods and helps to conserve forests as well. International organizations like the UN, donors NGOs, and governments are the great advocates of CFM. The idea of enacting the Forest Rights Act in 2006 by the Indian parliament was to accept the fact that without community involvement the forests cannot be conserved or protected. Our Govt's have spent huge funds for fencing of forests but in spite of doing all that we have not been able to get the desired results.

In 2012, Payvihir which is a small tribal village with mere 600 population under Upatkheda panchayat in Amravati district of Maharashtra was awarded 182 hectares (3600 kanals approx) of degraded land to exercise its community forest rights under the Forest Rights Act (FRA) 2006. Along with Payvihir, the adjoining villages of Upatkheda, Jamda and Khadijapur also got the community forest rights (CFR) under Forest Rights Act (FRA). All these villages are inhabited mostly by Korkus which is a tribal community found around Amravati and some parts of Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh. A Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) Khoj played a great role to create awareness about Forest Rights Act and other rights based legislations among the residents of Payvihir and adjoining villages in 2009-2010.

As the locals became aware of their rights, the tribal Jaati Panchayat also called Chawdi got involved in this activism. Within 3 to 4 years, the Govt was forced to hand over a huge chunk of forest land to the local Gram Sabha under the Community Forest Rights-CFR. In only Payvihir hamlet, 182 hectares of barren forest land was handed over to local gram sabha in 2013. Within 3 to 4 years under joint forest management (JFM) programme and convergence with schemes like MG-NREGA more than 30,000 trees were planted on this 182 hectares of forest land. The solar based tube wells were also provided under the JFM programme by the Govt to locals and in the last 5 to 6 years the entire area has seen a huge transformation. The barren land has now turned into a full fledged forest with the help of the Forest Rights Act.

Intervention of NGO Khoj

Due to the efforts of Purnima Upadhyay the founder of Khoj, the gram panchayat of Upatkheda especially the local youth fully got involved with FRA activism which led to revival of the local forest biodiversity. The 182 hectares of forest land that was handed over to the local gram sabha of three hamlets under Upatkheda panchayat is now visited for different species of birds. I witnessed this myself recently, as I, along with other visiting colleagues from Rajiv Gandhi Foundation, were putting up in Payvihir village. The Govt has constructed a beautiful training center in the middle of the forest which is also known as Interpretation Center. Several NGOs and Govt officials visit this center regularly for workshops and training. A nominal fee is charged from them that helps locals to maintain the center.

Local youth like Ramlal Kale, Amit Sonare, Krushna Belsare, Ravi Yewale and many others became the torch bearers of the FRA movement in Payvihir, Upatkheda, Jamda and Khadijapur Pur village in 2009-2010. All these youths were trained by Khoj and now they are working independently. The villagers took up several soil and water conservation works, plantations, and protection from forest fires and grazing. They also

undertook a lot of afforestation programmes by convergence with MG-NREGA. A small lake in Upatkheda which had a good number of fish in it was also handed over to local gram sabha after a long fight with the private firm that was earning profit from it through fishing. The firm was giving some lease amount to Maharashtra Fisheries Department and the local community used to get nothing. Uttam Shanware, a local resident and former Sarpanch of Upatkheda had to fight a long battle for it and he was even arrested by police for raising his voice against the private company. At the end, the fishing rights were given to the community and from the last 3 years the income generated from fishing goes to local gram sabha. The lake is now surrounded by thick forest managed by the local Korku tribe community.

CFR Titles in Ranpur

Last year in November, I visited Odisha where a dozen villages in Ranpur block of Nayagarh district received around fourteen (14) community forest right (CFR) titles. The villagers also received the same number of community forest resource right (CFRR) titles as well. During that visit also Chairman DDC Budgam had also been invited to participate in the event that was held in a remote forest village of Surkabadi in district Nayagarh which is around 100 kms from Odisha's capital city of Bhubaneswar.

The event was more like a festival as this was a historic day for the residents of two dozen villages. Hundreds of men, women, children wearing traditional colourful clothes had assembled in an open field as early as 9 am on Nov 22nd, the day when people were supposed to get the title. The actual event started in the afternoon, but

est dwellers (OTFD) as well. In the past the titles were mostly conferred on scheduled tribes (ST's) in India but due to local community mobilization by civil society groups all this was possible. The community rights conferred on the 24 villagers which includes joint title for a group of villages to collect and use the firewood and household implements within and outside traditional boundary. The villagers have the right to collect, process, use and sell minor forest produce, such as bamboo, kendu leaves (making beedis), tubers, green leaves etc. The villagers are allowed to undertake value addition, storage and transportation of the products. The rights on the water bodies along with fishing and grazing rights have also been given to the 24 villages. This was not the case in the past. Many villagers would be sent to jail as the forest department would invoke various sections under the Indian Forest Act of 1927.

Community Management

Under the Forest Rights Act the local Gram Sabha are empowered to protect and conserve or even manage the forests or forest resources. The act gives the local communities like forest dwelling scheduled tribes or other traditional forest dwellers (OTFDs) the rights to protect and preserve the forest's biodiversity and wildlife as well. The section 5 of the Forest Rights Act 2006 reads

"That holders of any forest right, Gram Sabha and village level institutions in areas where there are holders of any forest right under this Act are empowered to - (a) protect the wild life, forest and biodiversity; (b) ensure that adjoining catchments area, water sources and other ecological sensitive areas are adequately pro-

6 If a small tribal community can do such wonders why can't others follow this model? The FRA is not meant for forest encroachment but has been basically enacted to give the control of the forests to local communities who can well manage their forests and its resources. There are many success stories wherein local communities are seen doing better watch and vigil of forests and earning their livelihood as well from forest produce

the enthusiasm of the people was so charged that they kept waiting for their MLA and other officers of the administration under scorching sunlight for several hours. The local MLA of Ranpur Satyanarayan Pradhan and Chairman DDC Budgam Nazir Ahmad Khan jointly gave away the CFR titles to villagers. The officers from forest, revenue and tribal affairs department were present on the occasion.

Confederation of forest villages

The people around Ranpur forest area in Nayagarh district have already been working for conservation and protection of their forests and forest resources including the wildlife for last 24 years under the banner of Maa Maninag Jangal Suraksha Parishad (MMJSP) which is a confederation of around 132 community based forest protection groups in 132 villages. Arkito Sahu the Secretary of the Maa Maninag Jangal Suraksha Parishad has been putting his sincere and tireless efforts to organize the people in 132 villages for protection and conservation of forests. To give them institutional support V Giri Rao the Director of Vasundhara a reputed NGO based in Bhubaneswar has also been working with people like Arkito Sahu for the last many years. Vasundhara has been working around the Ranpur area since 1995. This NGO has helped MMJSP with institutional support like the documentation of their great work and to involve women in forest committees which has been a very tedious task. After enactment of the Forest Rights Act in 2006 Vasundhara and MMJSP have been working more rigorously to ensure the benefits of this legislation reach out to the forest dwellers around Ranpur block.

It was for the first time in last 14 years since the enactment of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 commonly known as Forest Rights Act 2006 (FRA) that community forest rights (CFR) or community forest resource rights (CFRR) were conferred on other traditional for-

Conclusion

A wrong assumption has been built by some forest officers and conservationists that forest dwellers are a threat to forests. Tribals in India are used to being called encroachers but Governments in the past never tried to involve them in conservation. After the Forest Rights Act was enacted, all this became possible. Successive Governments in Jammu & Kashmir never took any steps to enact FRA type legislation in the past. The way people of Upatkheda panchayat particularly residents of Pavihir village have regenerated their barren forest land with thousands of trees is an eye opener for those who have been opposing giving forest land to the local communities under the Forest Rights Act 2006. If a small tribal community can do such wonders why can't others follow this model? The FRA is not meant for forest encroachment but has been basically enacted to give the control of the forests to local communities who can well manage their forests and its resources. There are many success stories wherein local communities are seen doing better watch and vigil of forests and earning their livelihood as well from forest produce.

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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Eight Changes The World Needs To Make To Live With Covid

Andy Rain

More and more people have been asking for a return to normal, and with omicron waning, governments are starting to act. The UK, for example, is removing its remaining public health measures, including mandatory self-isolation of COVID cases and free testing. However, the inescapable truth is that – unless the virus mutates to a milder form – the “normal” life we are returning to will be shorter and sicker on average than before.

We’ve added a new significant disease to our population. COVID is often compared to flu, as if adding a burden equivalent to flu to a population were fine (it isn’t). In fact, COVID has been and remains worse. COVID’s infection fatality rate – the proportion of people who die once they’ve caught it – was initially about ten times higher than for flu. Treatments, vaccines and prior infections have since brought the fatality rate down, but it’s still almost twice as high as for flu – and yes, this still holds for omicron.

The impact is then worsened because COVID is so much more transmissible. It also has a similar or worse longer-term impact on the heart, lungs and mental health than other respiratory diseases, and a higher rate of long-term symptoms. Vaccines have been incredibly effective at reducing severe illness and death, but they’re not perfect. New variants have tested vac-

cine defences, and protection against infection – and to a lesser extent severe illness – wanes after a few months.

While we’re unlikely to lose all protection against severe illness and death, the sort of return to normal being attempted in countries such as the UK, Denmark and Norway will result in many people facing repeated COVID reinfections over the coming years. The large majority will cope, but some will die, and more will be left with lasting ill health. Many with mild illness will still need time

How to live post-COVID
The last 150 years have seen vast improvements in public health, with dramatic reductions in deaths from malnutrition, infectious diseases, environmental diseases, smoking and road traffic accidents to name a few.

For communal problems we have developed communal solutions, from vaccines to controls on pollution, passive smoking, unsafe driving and other ills. There’s nothing normal about upending decades of progress by simply accepting a

what we have learned from the last two years. Here are eight key changes that can reduce the future impact of COVID:

1) Outdoors is pretty safe – so let’s make indoor air as much like the outdoors as possible. This will involve large investment in infrastructure to improve ventilation and to filter and clean the air. This isn’t simple, but neither was bringing clean water and electricity to every home. We know how to do it and it will be effective against

“Such plans should enable us to avoid long widespread lockdowns. Refusing to learn to live with COVID by pretending the old normal exists is in fact the biggest risk for future lockdown

new variants. We also need to keep working towards vaccines that are longer lasting and more variant proof.

3) We’ve learned that acting sooner rather than later is crucial to containing outbreaks and preventing spread to other countries. So we need to invest in global surveillance of new COVID variants and other new infectious diseases.

4) Most countries already have routine surveillance for serious infectious diseases (such as flu and measles) and plans in place to mitigate their impact. Countries need to add permanent surveillance of COVID infection rates to existing programmes, to keep track of how much COVID is circu-

lating, where and in which communities.

5) We still know too little about the long-term impacts of COVID, though we do know it can cause long-lasting organ damage and result in long COVID. We need to invest in understanding, preventing and treating these impacts.

6) Many health systems were already struggling before COVID hit, and have since had their resilience further depleted by the pandemic. Investment in health systems is urgently needed, particularly in winter seasons where the additional burden of COVID will be most acutely felt.

7) COVID has hit the most disadvantaged the hardest. Those least able to afford to self-isolate are also more likely to work outside the home, use public transport and live in overcrowded housing – all risk factors for catching the virus. Increased exposure is coupled with lower vaccination rates and poorer health among disadvantaged groups, leading to worse outcomes if infected. Countries need to invest more in reducing inequalities: in health, housing, workplaces, sick pay and education. This will make all of us more resilient to future outbreaks and reduce

ill health and death – not just from COVID but everything else too.

8) Finally, there will still be future waves of COVID – the above will simply reduce their frequency and scale. We need to have a plan to deal with these. Excellent national surveillance systems will help rapidly identify an outbreak and understand how much ill health is being caused and immunity evaded – all of which will help tailor an appropriate temporary response. A response might, for instance, include escalating testing, reintroducing masks and working from home where possible.

Such plans should enable us to avoid long widespread lockdowns. Refusing to learn to live with COVID by pretending the old normal exists is in fact the biggest risk for future lockdowns.

We need to move on from the denial and anger stages of grief and on to accepting that the world is different now. Then, we can take control and build a way of living that is designed to contain the virus while allowing all of us – including the clinically vulnerable – to lead freer and more healthy lives.

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off work or education, and as we have seen with omicron, the aggregate effects can be hugely disruptive.

In short, the world pre-2020 no longer exists – we may want it to, but it just doesn’t.

serious new disease like COVID without actively attempting to mitigate it.

The good news is that we can mitigate it. We can accept that the world has changed and make adaptations based on

any future variant and any airborne disease.

2) Vaccines remain crucial. We need to vaccinate the world as soon as possible to save lives and slow down the emergence of

The Seven Habits That Lead to Happiness in Old Age

Your well-being is like a retirement account: The sooner you invest, the greater your returns will be.

Arthur C. Brooks

Imagine yourself 10 years from now. Will you be happier or less happy than you are today? I ask my graduate students—average age, late 20s—this question every year. The majority think they will be happier. But when I ask about their prediction for 50 years from now, it seems a lot less rosy. Being in their late 70s doesn’t sound so great to most of them.

They are shocked when I show them the data on what happens to most people: Happiness tends to decline throughout young adulthood and middle age, bottoming out at about age 50. After that, it heads back up again into one’s mid-60s. Then something strange happens. Older people split into two groups as they get old: those getting much happier, and those getting much unhappier.

Right around this same time of life, many people realize the importance of having made good financial decisions in their earlier decades. Those who planned ahead and saved up are more likely to be able to support themselves in comfort; many of those who didn’t, can’t. Something similar happens with happiness, as I show in my new book, *From Strength to Strength: Finding Success, Happiness, and Deep Purpose in the Second Half of Life*. Each of us has something like

a “Happiness 401(k)” that we invest in when we are young, and that we get to enjoy when we are old. And just as financial planners advise their clients to engage in specific behaviors—make your saving automatic; think twice before buying that boat—we can all teach ourselves to do some very specific things at any age to make our last decades much, much happier.

In 1938, researchers at Harvard Medical School lit upon a visionary idea: They would sign up a bunch of men then studying at Harvard and follow them from youth to adulthood. Every year or two, researchers asked the participants about their lifestyles, habits, relationships, work, and happiness. The study has since expanded to include people beyond men who went to Harvard, and its results have been updated regularly for more than 80 years. Those results are a treasure trove (and I’ve referenced them several times in this column): You look at how people lived, loved, and worked in their 20s and 30s, and then you can see how their life turned out over the following decades. And from this crystal ball of happiness, you can learn how to invest in your own future well-being.

As the participants in the Harvard Study of Adult Development have aged, researchers have categorized them with respect to happiness and health. There is a lot of variation in the population, but two



distinct groups emerge at the extremes. The best off are the “happy-well,” who enjoy good physical health as well as good mental health and high life satisfaction. On the other end of the spectrum are the “sad-sick,” who are below average in physical health, mental health, and life satisfaction.

When they were young, the happy-well senior citizens tended to have accumulated certain resources and habits in their Happiness 401(k)s. Some of these are, like generational wealth, difficult for each of us to control: having a happy childhood, descending from long-lived ancestors, and avoiding clinical depression.

But some are, to varying degrees, under our control, and these can teach us a great deal

about how to plan for late-life happy-wellness. Using data from the Harvard study, two researchers showed in 2001 that we can control seven big investment decisions pretty directly: smoking, drinking, body weight, exercise, emotional resilience, education, and relationships. Here’s what you can do about each of them today to make sure your accounts are as full as possible when you reach your later years:

- ▶ Don’t smoke—or if you already smoke, quit now. You might not succeed on your first try, but the earlier you start the quitting process, the more smoke-free years you can invest in your happiness account.
- ▶ Watch your drinking. Alcohol abuse is strongly corre-

lated with smoking in the Harvard study, but plenty of other research shows that even by itself, it is one of the most powerful predictors of winding up sad-sick. If you have any indication of problem drinking in your life, get help now. If you have drinking problems in your family, do not take your chances: Keep that switch turned off. Although forgoing alcohol can be difficult, you’ll never be sorry you made this decision.

- ▶ Maintain a healthy body weight. Eat a diet with lots of fruits and vegetables and moderate serving sizes, but avoid yo-yo diets or intense restrictions that you can’t maintain over the long run.
- ▶ Prioritize movement in your

life by scheduling time for it every day and sticking to it. Arguably the single best, time-tested way to do this is by walking daily.

- ▶ Practice your coping mechanisms now. The earlier you can find healthy ways to deal with life’s inevitable distresses, the more prepared you’ll be if ill luck strikes in your 80s. This means working consciously—perhaps with assistance from spiritual practices or even therapy—to avoid excessive rumination, unhealthy emotional reactions, or avoidance behavior.
- ▶ Keep learning. More education leads to a more active mind in old age, and that means a longer, happier life. That doesn’t mean that you need to go to Harvard; you simply need to engage in lifelong, purposive learning. For example, that can mean reading serious nonfiction as part of a routine to learn more about new subjects.
- ▶ Do the work to cultivate stable, long-term relationships now. For most people, this includes a steady marriage, but other relationships with family, friends, and partners can fit in this category as well. The point is to find people with whom you can grow, whom you can count on, no matter what comes your way.

The best way to maximize your chances of happiness in your 70s is to pursue all seven

of these goals with fervor, sort of like balancing your 401(k). But if you can choose only one to pour your heart into, let it be the last. According to the Harvard study, the single most important trait of happy-well elders is healthy relationships. As Robert Waldinger, who currently directs the study, told me in an email, “Well-being can be built—and the best building blocks are good, warm relationships.”

The seven funds of happiness are all based on population averages, which means, as they say in the commercials, your results may differ. Maybe, for example, you just can’t quit smoking. You won’t necessarily be doomed to misery in your 70s, but you’ll be better off if you can bolster your happiness through one of your other investments—say, by finding meaning and community in your faith.

If you want to ascend to that upper branch of happiness, following the seven steps as best you can is the most reliable way to do so. Take an inventory of your habits and behaviors today, and see where you need to invest a little more time, energy, or money to start moving in the right direction.

Everyone loves a happy ending, especially in the story of their own life. Start writing that ending today.

The article was originally published by The Atlantic

Girls With Hijab And Burqa Denied Entry To Colleges Citing HC interim Order

Press Trust of India

BENGALURU: Hijab and Burqa wearing girls were denied entry to educational institutions in Shivamogga and Udupi by the authorities citing the Karnataka High Court's interim order on Monday.

According to information received, 15 students were not allowed inside the DVS College in Shivamogga as they insisted that they should be allowed not only putting on Hijab but also with Burqa.

The college authorities told them that they cannot attend the classes as the HC interim order was in force, sources said.

The girls then gathered at the college gate but the policemen deployed there said they cannot form any group as the prohibitory orders were in place under Section 144 of the CrPC.

Similarly in Udupi, Muslim girls were not allowed inside the Government PU Girls College and hence, they were not allowed to attend the science practical tests held as part of the preparatory exams.

The practical examinations for second-year science students began at the government pre-university college for

women in Udupi with the college not allowing three students to appear for the examinations wearing hijab.



lege not allowing three students to appear for the examinations wearing hijab.

The controversy over the hijab dress code spread to other colleges in Karnataka from this pre-university college after six students demanded permission to wear hijab in the classroom.

Of the six students, three, A H Almas, Hazra Shifa and Bibi Ayesha, are in the science stream. They arrived in the college Monday wearing hijab to appear for the examination. But Principal Rudre Gowda did not allow them to enter the exam centre wearing a hijab citing the interim order of the High Court. The students returned

Almas said, "Today was our final practical exam. We had completed our record books and went in great hopes to attend the practical exam. It was so disheartening when our principal threatened us saying 'you have 5 minutes to leave, if you don't leave, I will have to file a police complaint, the principal told us,' she said.

"Right now, we should have been in our labs attending the practical exams, not compelled to leave. The hopes I had from my college and my dreams are getting shattered due to the hatred sowed against hijab."

Denying the allegation of the student, the principal told

reporters that he tried explaining to the students on the need to follow the interim order of the High Court. They opted to return home without appearing for the examinations, principal Rudre Gowda said.

Meanwhile, Bharath composite pre-university college at Mastikatte, on the outskirts of Mangaluru, which declared a holiday from February 25 following protests by students over hijab, did not open for classes on Monday.

The Hijab row started in December end when a few girls denied entry into the college with Hijab.

On January 1, six girl students of a college in Udupi attended a press conference held by the CFI in the coastal town protesting against the college authorities denying them entry into classrooms wearing hijab.

This was four days after they requested the principal permission to wear hijab in classes which was not allowed. Till then, students used to wear the headscarf to the campus, but entered the classroom after removing it, college principal Rudre Gowda said.

"The institution did not have any rule on hijab-wearing since

no one used to wear it to the classroom in the last 35 years. The students who came with the demand had the backing of outside forces," Gowda had said.

As the issue of Hijab versus saffron scarves spread to several educational institutions in many parts of Karnataka, the state government announced holiday from February 9 to 15 in all the pre-university college and from February 9 to February 16 in degree and diploma colleges.

The girls then approached the Karnataka High Court seeking relief and quashing the government order on February 5 restraining students from wearing any cloth that could disturb, peace, harmony and public order.

The full bench of the High Court comprising CJ Awasthi, Justice J M Khazi and Justice Krishna S Dixit, which has been hearing the case on a day-to-day basis since February 10, in its interim order asked the state government to reopen the educational institutions, which were hit by the agitation, and restrained students from wearing Hijab and saffron scarves in the class-room till the final order is delivered.

Delhi Metro Services With Full Passenger Capacity Resume

NEW DELHI: Delhi Metro services with full passenger capacity resumed on Monday as authorities lifted all curbs following improvement in the COVID-19 situation in the city.

Till 8 pm, the DMRC had registered nearly 32.9 lakh journeys for the day, officials said. Journey or line utilisation is calculated by the number of corridors passengers use to reach their destinations. The corresponding journey figures for the three preceding Mondays were -- 23.66 lakh (February 7), 27.93 lakh (February 14) and 31.95 lakh on February 21, the officials said.

The Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) had on Friday decided to withdraw all Covid restrictions from Monday, reduce the fine amount for not wearing masks from Rs 2,000 to Rs 500 and resume physical classes in schools from April 1.

"Delhi Metro services have resumed today without any restrictions on passenger occupancy after a long time," the DMRC said in a statement.

"DMRC expresses its thanks and gratitude to its passengers for following the protocols during the pandemic. Indeed,

without your cooperation, we could not have operated the metro despite the constraints posed by the pandemic," it said.

All the gates have been reopened as the restrictions have been lifted, the officials said. Earlier, only a limited number of gates were operational. The urban transporter also tweeted to inform commuters about the development. In the days ahead as well, Delhi Metro shall continue to try its best to provide a safe and comfortable journey.

"However, let us remember that Covid is not over yet. In order to ensure a safe journey, let us follow all necessary protocols such as: Wearing of masks regularly, adequate social distancing, frequent hand sanitisation," it said in a tweet.

The DMRC said it shall also continue to maintain the highest level of hygiene and cleanliness for the passengers. The trains and stations are being frequently sanitised and all the guidelines in place shall be stringently followed, it added. The DMRC network's current span is nearly 392 km with 286 stations (including the Noida Greater Noida Metro Corridor and the Rapid Metro, Gurgaon).

Depleting Food Stocks Add To Trauma Of Stranded Students In Ukraine Amid Reports Of Some Being Roughed Up

AGENCEIS

INDORE/AURANGABAD/DEHRADUN: Depleting food stocks and long queues for water are adding to the trauma of stranded Indian students in war-hit Ukraine awaiting evacuation amid reports of some being roughed up by security personnel and spending freezing nights out in the open.

As Indian and Ukrainian authorities on Monday described the situation as "complex" and "very difficult" in terms of evacuation of people, the students, joined by their parents, appealed to the Indian government to expedite efforts to evacuate them. Russia launched its attack on Ukraine last Thursday.

I want my son in front of my eyes as soon as possible," said Kamini Sharma, who is praying for the safe return of Vibhor Sharma (22), a resident of Indore in Madhya Pradesh. Vibhor is pursuing a medical course at the Ternopil National Medical University.

Payal Panwar, a final year medical student who returned to her Kotdwar home in Uttarakhand, said the stranded students need help of the Indian government and the Indian embassy people more while they are still inside Ukraine rather than when they have moved out of the war-torn country.

"The problems end when you cross the borders but while you are inside

Ukraine it is really difficult with food supplies running out and no cash in ATMs. Stranded students need the help of Indian authorities while they are still inside Ukrainian borders," said Payal, who studies in Ivano-Frankivsk city in western Ukraine.

Recounting her ordeal, she said around 60-70 Indian students had to book a bus and also walk a distance of 8-10 km in freezing cold to reach the Romanian border to get out of Ukraine.

Many ATMs could not dispense cash and long queues of men and women waiting for their turn for food supplies were seen at several points, she said.

Though happy and relieved to be reunited with her parents, Payal and her parents are worried about her brother who was still stuck in Kharkiv.

An Indian student who managed to reach the Kyiv train station said Ukrainian guards were not allowing students to board trains and also beating up people and made a fervent appeal to the Indian embassy to evacuate them as soon as possible.

It's getting difficult for us to stay here, Ansh Pandita told PTI, as scores of Indian students, including women, sat huddled together at the teeming Volzka railway station in the Ukrainian capital, holding a large tricolour aloft so they could be recognised in the crowd and also so no one from the

group gets lost.

The group of about 100 students managed to reach the station but no one could board a train.

Ukrainian soldiers are not allowing us to board the train to Hungary. In fact, they are not allowing any international resident to get out, Pandita, a student of Taras Shevchenko National Medical University in Kyiv, said over the phone from the station.

We requested them to at least allow the girls to go but that request too fell on deaf ears."

The opposition Congress also alleged that Indian students were assaulted by security personnel on the Ukraine-Poland border.

"Students are crying out for help, requesting the Modi government to intervene but to no avail. We saw a video last night on the Ukraine-Poland border where students are being beaten up," party spokesperson Ragini Nayak told reporters.

India managed to accelerate its efforts to get its nationals out of Ukraine in the last 24 hours, though the situation on the ground continues to be "complex and fluid" in terms of evacuation of people, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said.

It said a total of 1,396 Indians were brought back home in six flights as part of the evacuation mission and

the total number of Indians who have left Ukraine since India issued the first advisory earlier this month is around 8,000. An estimated 20,000 Indian nationals, mainly medical students, reside in Ukraine.

As the battle for Kharkiv rages on, at least three students from Maharashtra pursuing medicine in the city located in northeast Ukraine, narrated how they had to stand in long queues for a can of water, drink soda, stay in bunkers, and risk their lives to fetch food items amid bomb blasts.

Hritik Bapuloahar, a first-year medical student from Palghar, said he had reached Kharkiv city only a couple of months back.

"We can hear bomb explosions as they are taking place in a periphery of around 500 metres from where we are currently staying in Kharkiv. We are struggling even for basic needs. As many as 500 students are staying in two bunkers for the past four days. When the curfew was lifted some of them left the hostel. The situation is worsening fast. I appeal to the Indian government to evacuate us urgently," he told a Marathi news channel.

Bapuloahar's senior Aishwarya Patil, who hails from Sangli, said drinking water stocks have exhausted at their Kharkiv hostel.

"We are currently using soda water

for drinking. After standing in queues stretching up to 2 km, we can get a can of five-litre water. Food prices have tripled since the war began. We are taking huge risks by stepping out to purchase food items. We are hiding as bomb blasts are happening here. During nights, we are given an hour for cooking by authorities. We cook using mobile flashlights," she said.

Shivanjali Yadav, also from Sangli, said students and other Indians are asked to stay in bunkers in Kharkiv even though we don't have much food and water with us.

The students trapped in a bunker in the Kharkiv region are facing difficulties in arranging food, water. Some of them have fallen sick in freezing temperatures, few blankets, and dipping oxygen. There are also no transportation facilities available for them, said one of the students who returned to Odisha.

Several students wanting to return to India from Ukraine had to spend two days under the sky in severe cold weather at the Romanian border after travelling by bus and then walking for 25 km, a mother of one of the students said.

My son somehow boarded a bus from Ternopil to reach Romania. But, on the way, he had to get down from the bus due to some problem and the

border was still far away," the Indore-based Kamini Sharma, told PTI.

The woman said her son along with several other Indian students walked for 25 km to reach the border of Romania.

"But, these students, gathered at the Romanian border, had to stay under the open sky for two days in the harsh winter weather as they were not allowed to enter Romania immediately," she said quoting the phone conversation with her son.

Sharma said she has now come to know that clearance has been given for the entry of these Indian students into Romania on Monday morning.

Ukrainian Ambassador Igor Polikha said his country is helping the stranded Indians and extending assistance in their evacuation notwithstanding the "very difficult" ground situation.

Polikha said he himself reached out to some of the Ukrainian border guarding commanders requesting them to assist the Indians who are trying to exit the country through land borders.

"The situation is very difficult and complex. My resources are limited. We are victims of aggression. Still, we are trying to help people including those from other countries," he told a media briefing in Delhi.

Polikha said the circumstances at the Ukraine-Poland border crossing

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Police Officer Injured

escape after an unidentified militant fired upon him from close range in Batamalo area.

Constable Munir Meraj was returning home from a market when an unknown militant fired at him from close range in SD Colony of Batamalo. Meraj, who was also carrying his child in his lap escaped unhurt in the militant attack.

Last year on November 7, a policeman Tawseef Ahmad Wani was shot dead by militants outside his home in SD Colony, Batamalo.

Over 300 Vehicles

suspension of traffic on the Jammu-Kishtwar-Doda national highway which passes through Samroli as well, the officials said.

Hundreds of passenger vehicles, which left for Srinagar and Chenab valley region including Doda and Kishtwar this morning, were stopped at several places including Nagrota bypass and Narwal here.

The highway was only cleared for traffic on Sunday after a day-long closure owing to fresh snowfall in Qazigund-Banihal sector and multiple landslides triggered by heavy rains in Ramban.

The SSP said barring 300 trucks on their way to Jammu, thousands of vehicles had reached their destinations on Sunday.

Jamia Masjid Likely

ascended to the heavens. Pole told Kashmir Observer that they had visited the mosque to access the developmental activities including the renovation of shopping complex, construction of Wuzu Khana (Ablution block) and blacktopping of paths nearby.

"Administration will take a call regarding allowing prayers," he added.

He further added that the Masjid management also raised some issues regarding the developmental activities of the mosque which will be addressed.

Pertinently, the Masjid is closed for the 29th consecutive weeks. It was closed for the mandatory prayers due to the outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic that claimed thousands of lives in Jammu and Kashmir.

Kashmir's head priest Mirwaiz Umar Farooq, who used to deliver Friday sermons at the Jamia Masjid has been under continuous house arrest at his Nigeen residence since August 5, 2019.

Meanwhile, a local news agency quoted IGP Kashmir, Vijay Kumar as saying that the government is considering to reopen the Jamia Masjid next week.

Covid III Wave

been discharged from various hospitals including 51 from Jammu Division and 97 from Kashmir Division," they said.

Also, the officials said that the death toll due to pandemic remained unchanged at 4748 in J&K-2325 in Jammu and 2423 in Kashmir, as no fatality was reported during the last 24 hours.

The officials further said that no new cases of Mucormycosis were reported today, thus the total number of confirmed cases remains 51 across J&K.

Panel To Make

suggestions/ objections before a specified date.

"These suggestions would be considered during public sittings to be held in Jammu & Kashmir by the Commission," they said, adding that this would be the second such visit of the panel to J&K after its constitution in 2020.

The commission had also visited J&K in 2021 to obtain views from different stakeholders over the exercise.

As already expected, the commission would finalise its report by or before May 5, as it has got extension of only two months from the Government of India-(KNO)

Govt Making

He asked the officials concerned to build a database of five lakh youth through youth clubs and other mission initiatives with Aadhaar numbers, mobile numbers and other relevant information in an effort to map their job requirements by the end of April.

"The facility to reach out to them through bulk SMS and mail must also be ensured by the mission. It is important for the mission to know about the persons it is dealing with," he said. Mehta said the mission should focus on empowering the youth to set up their ventures or start economic activities at new and upcoming heritage, tourist and trekking sites.

He asked Chief Executive Officer, Mission Youth, Shahid Iqbal Choudhary to tap the young people in and around these destinations and provide assistance to enable them to make a living.

Choudhary, in his presentation on the progress made under various components under the mission, said while 4,882 beneficiaries have been provided self-employment under the 'Mumkin' scheme so far, 8,000 beneficiaries will be provided self-employment by the end of the current fiscal.

Under the 'Tejaswani' scheme, the mission has provided financial support to 3,447 young women entrepreneurs to take up self-employment ventures across various sectors of the economy, he said.

He said a total of 6,600 young women will be covered under the scheme by the close of the financial year.

The chief secretary said a special task force comprising secretaries of a

few departments shall be constituted to look into areas of convergence and also set out the measures for creating employment opportunities in the new and upcoming tourist destinations.

Stranded Kashmiri

The nearest border is at least 800 kilometers away from our place, so are we going to walk up to that place? If the Indian embassy doesn't change its evacuation plan, they will not be able to save us."

"They have asked us to leave Kyiv but there's absolutely no way that we can leave because almost after every 30 minutes, a massive bombings rattle this city. They should have come up with a practical idea of evacuating us rather than playing safe for their own sake. The most practical solution for our evacuation is that the Indian government contacts the Russian Government and asks it to allow us to travel to its border because on three sides of Kharkiv lies the Russian border and that's the nearest border for us unlike Romanian border which is 800 KMs away," he adds

Pertinently, the Indian embassy in Ukraine has stayed active on Twitter and tweeted regularly, asking its stranded citizens to stay "patient and safe" as it attempts to evacuate all of them.

On Monday, it also issued an advisory and asked those stuck in Kiev to proceed to railway stations where there were special trains for evacuees. But there was no such communication for students who are stranded in the basements and underground shelters of the Kharkiv battle zone.

Several Kashmiri students stuck in Kharkiv have told this reporter that they are planning to leave the city and try to make it to Odessa port city on their own as they fear that the Embassy official will keep on delaying

their evacuation.

"We fear that war in Kharkiv will take an ugly turn as Russians may try to intensify their military operation here in an attempt to reach capital Kiev faster," a Kashmiri student, who wished not to be named said.

Several Kashmiri students along with those from the other parts of the country have also alleged that even though the Embassy has issued an advisory asking them to leave and reach Kyiv but the hostel authorities have denied them permission citing no such order has been issued to them.

Other foreign embassies have already coordinated with University officials and evacuated their citizens. But unfortunately we've been left to God's mercy," said another student.

With war nearing a week another crisis staring at stranded students is the food shortage.

"Almost all the halal food in Kharkiv's supermarkets has ended. What's left is something that none of us can eat. The basic amenities like rice, beans and vegetables are completely out of stock. The embassy guys haven't been able to arrange these things for us, how exactly are they going to evacuate us," said Asif.

"Some supermarkets still have these items available but unfortunately as soon as we try to enter, the shop is shut on us and we are asked to leave. They're only providing these essential items to local Ukrainians. We are literally eating the leftover food. If this war doesn't kill us, I'm pretty sure we'll die of hunger," he said.

7 Dead, 37 Injured

featured videos showing residential quarters hit by a series of powerful explosions amid fighting with Russian forces. The Russian military has consistently denied targeting residential

areas despite abundant evidence of shelling of residential buildings, schools and hospitals. (AP)

LG Prays For

occasion reflects the true spirit of our composite culture and instills the spirit of brotherhood and harmony among all, an official spokesperson said.

The LG, he said, prayed for sustained peace, progress and prosperity in the lives of the people.

Leopard Seen Near

spotted near northern cliff of Nashri Naka. Police further cautioned people to remain alert and careful.

"People are advised to be careful and stay inside their houses during night hours," police added.

IAF Airlifts 123

An AN-32 IAF aircraft, also known as Kargil Courier, transported 44 stranded people from Jammu to Kargil and 15 from Kargil to Jammu, chief coordinator Aamir Ali of the IAF's Courier Service said.

Similarly, 38 passengers stranded in Srinagar were flown to Kargil and 26 from Kargil to Srinagar, Ali said.

The IAF operates C-17, C-130 and AN-32 aircraft regularly to airlift stranded passengers between J&K and Ladakh during the closure of the Srinagar-Leh National Highway owing to snowfall.

Ladakh Reports

Fifty two patients recovered 44 in Leh and eight in Kargil and were discharged from hospitals. With these, the total number of recoveries went up to 27,609, they said.

A total of 675 sample reports in Ladakh were tested negative, they said. Of the 166 active cases, 159 cases were reported in Leh and the remaining in Kargil, they said. (PTI)

Omar Visits Acid Attack Survivor At Chennai Hospital

Press Trust Of India

CHENNAI: Former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Omar Abdullah on Monday visited a hospital to enquire about the condition of a 27-year-old Kashmiri woman who was attacked with acid in Srinagar and brought to Chennai for specialised treatment.

Accompanied by Tamil Nadu Health Minister Ma Subramanian, Abdullah met the family members of the woman, who has lost her eyesight and whose face was disfigured in the attack.

Three people have been arrested for the acid attack on February 1, which triggered a massive public outrage. The case is coming up for trial on March 8.

Abdullah, who was in Chennai for the release of a book of Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin, visited the survivor and spoke to the doctors attending to her.

The Tamil Nadu health minister assured Abdullah, the National Conference vice president, that he would personally look into the matter and do whatever is best for the woman.

Abdullah handed over a cheque to the family as his personal contribution towards her

medical expenses.

The woman has undergone six surgeries so far. In addition to eye surgeries, three skin grafting procedures have been done to reconstruct her face.

The Jammu and Kashmir Police recently filed a 1,000-page charge sheet against the three people -- Sajid Altaf Rather and Mohammad Saleem Kumar alias Tota, and a juvenile.

The police have prayed for treating the juvenile as an adult as per the amended Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, whereby youngsters in the age group of 16-18 can be tried under the Indian Penal Code (IPC) if they are accused of heinous crimes.

The accused were charged under sections 120-B (criminal conspiracy) and 326-A (voluntarily causing grievous hurt by use of acid) of the IPC.

"We have filed a water-tight charge sheet and we will make a plea to the court for a daily hearing in this case. If a daily hearing is not possible, we would request the honourable court for a speedy trial," Senior Superintendent of Police (Srinagar) Rakesh Balwal had said after filing of the charge sheet.

Mehta Calls For War Against Plastic Waste

Directs Forests Dept To Promote Sustainable Economy, Livelihood For All

Observer News Service

JAMMU: As part of the Government's outreach programme to generate livelihood for the people of Jammu and Kashmir, the J&K Forest Department on Monday organized a one-day consultation meeting-cum-discussion on 'Forests for Livelihood'.

The event was inaugurated by the Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta in presence of Sanjeev Verma, Commissioner/Secretary Forest Ecology and Environment Department.

The event focused on consultation with stakeholders for undertaking diverse activities for the creation of forest-based livelihood in Jammu and Kashmir; and was kicked off by an exhibition of forest-derived handicrafts, forest produce, and display technologies for processing of forest produce by various institutes of repute, followed by two technical sessions and a panel discussion.

In his address, the Chief Secretary highlighted the key role of Forests in sustaining the economy; supporting the livelihood of millions of people living around forests; and ecosystem services provided by forests, especially in a hilly region like J&K.

Lauding the efforts of the Government to enhance green cover of Jammu and Kashmir by launching 'Green Jammu & Kashmir Drive' and 'One beat guard, One Village Programme' which have a great potential to enhance the livelihood

of the communities through their active involvement; the Chief sec-



retary also noted that greening of J&K is being carried out in all Village Panchayats under 'Har Gaon Haryali' campaign with the involvement of PRIs and Biodiversity Management Committees.

For the preservation of green cover, the Chief Secretary urged the Social Forestry Department to take the mission of 'Har Gaon Haryali', green villages, a step further to 'Har Ghar Haryali', green homes, in an attempt to encourage households to plant trees. He also suggested launching a movement on the lines of Har Nagar Ek Upvan, a green space for every town.

The Chief Secretary also appreciated the generation of livelihood by the Forest Department through its 'Eco-trek routes'. He also encouraged the members of SHGs, NGOs as well as the Forest Officers to actively work towards finding innovative solutions to engage a greater number of people in livelihood generation activities and conservation of forest resources.

National Science Week 2022 Concludes at KiiT International School



Observer News Service

As a part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, grand programmes and exhibitions to showcase indigenous science, technology, and innovations were held at 75 locations across the country, including KiiT International School, Bhubaneswar, from 22nd - 28th February 2022.

The week-long celebrations themed 'Vigyan Sarvatre Pujyate' and jointly organised by the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, Office of the Principal Scientific Officer to the Government of Odisha, and Vigyan Prasara and supported by DST, DBT, CSIR, MoES, DAE, DOS, ICMR, AICTE, and DRDO, concluded on 28th February, on the occasion of National Science Day.

The festival at Bhubaneswar was organised under the aegis of Science and Technology Department, Govt. of Odisha in association with Odisha Bigyan Academy, Bhubaneswar City Knowledge Innovation Cluster, KiiT Deemed to be University

and Regional Science Centre, Bhubaneswar.

The valedictory ceremony at KiiT International School was graced by Dr. K. K. Nanda, Director, Institute of Physics; Mr. Laxmi Narayan Padhi, Senior Scientist, Science and Technology Department, Govt. of Odisha; Dr. P. C. Padhi, Chief Manager, CIPET-IPT; Dr. S. Hajra, DRDO Coordinator for ITR, Chandipur; Dr. S. Dutta, Coordinator, "Proof and Experimental Establishment (PXE)" DRDO, Chandipur; Dr. Bibhuti Bhusan Mishra, President, Odisha Bigyan Academy; Dr. Mrutyunjay Suar, Director General-R&D, KiiT-DU and Chairman, BCKIC; Dr. Mona Lisa Bal, Chairperson, KiiT International School and Dr. Sanjay Suar, Principal.

They addressed the students highlighting the capabilities of Indian Science and Technology, achievements and excellent work undertaken by Govt. of Odisha to popularise the science among the students and researchers.

Various Initiatives Taken To Make Governance More Transparent: Govt

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Various initiatives have been taken by the Jammu and Kashmir administration led by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha to make the functioning of government departments more transparent and participatory, an official spokesman said on Monday.

The administration has made "jan bhagidari" (public participation) the main mantra for making it more responsive, accountable and transparent, besides ensuring rapid growth and development in the Union Territory, the spokesman said.

The programme focused on improving public access to a portal having details of all ongoing works in an area to inform and solicit people's participation in development process and corruption-free governance, he said.

The idea is to make working of government institutions more transparent at the grassroots level and enable people to keep a check on progress of development projects, he said.

As on date, the BEAMS-EM-POWERMENT portal hosts details of 33,099 works being executed in the Union Territory at a cumulative cost of around Rs 12,200 crore, he said.

and installation of functional tap water connection to each household.

The spokesman said as one of the major initiatives to further public participation in the overall development process in the Union Territory, the government launched the 'Janta Ki Scheme-Janta ki Bhagidari' campaign.

The programme focused on improving public access to a portal having details of all ongoing works in an area to inform and solicit people's participation in development process and corruption-free governance, he said.

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As on date, the BEAMS-EM-POWERMENT portal hosts details of 33,099 works being executed in the Union Territory at a cumulative cost of around Rs 12,200 crore, he said.

The spokesman said Jammu and Kashmir is first in the country in taking lead in enforcing reforms in expenditure management and the account of each penny has been made available in public domain.

Further, as a result of sustained institutional reforms in the UT and sharp focus on completion of works in a time-bound manner, there is a substantial impact on ground in terms of completion of projects, the spokesman said.

Till date, he said a total of 21,943 projects have been completed across the Union Territory, including 9,229 projects completed during 2018-19 and 12,637 during 2019-20.

"The primary objective of all these remarkable initiatives is to ensure public participation in the overall development process in the UT. These steps are aimed at strengthening the institution of 'jan bhagidari' making it an integral part of transparent and accountable governance, he said.

DCs Asked To Make Eklavya Model Schools Operational by April

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir lieutenant governor's adviser Farooq Khan on Monday asked deputy commissioners to expedite the process of operationalisation of Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) before April.

He said the government is committed to provide state-of-the-art facilities for tribal children through the EMRS where in the best teaching staff and infrastructure would be available for these children residing in remote areas.

Khan made the remarks while chairing a meeting to consider and give approval for the establishment of new EMRS and the operationalisation of approved ones.

Senior officers of various



departments including, Tribal Affairs Secretary Iqbal Chaudhary and deputy commissioners of both divisions of Kashmir and Jammu, attended the meeting, an official spokesperson said.

The deputy commissioners gave suggestions with respect to the EMRS to be submitted for recommendation to the government of India in two phases (10

in phase-I and eight in phase-II). Khan asked the deputy commissioners to expedite the process of operationalisation of EMRS before April, so that the facilities would be dedicated to the people in set time.

He also asked them to identify suitable chunks of land in districts for EMRS with easy access and scope for future expansions.

ARTICLE- 370 ABOGATION

A Never Happened Before Move In Independent India, Says Rahul

Press Trust Of India

CHENNAI: Hitting out at the BJP-led Centre over abrogation of Article 370 that revoked the special status for Jammu and Kashmir in 2019, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Monday said it was a move that has not happened ever before in the country which has left "bureaucrats from Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat" rule the new union territory.

Gandhi's comments came in response to National Conference leader Omar Abdullah speaking on the subject at the release of Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin's autobiography here, where he rued the division of the erstwhile state into a UT.

"Omar spoke wonderfully today...we have to understand that for the first time since independence a state of the Indian union had its powers taken away. It has never happened before that the rights of people have been snatched from them. Today the people of Jammu and Kashmir don't rule themselves. Bureaucrats from UP and Gujarat rule Jammu and Kashmir. And that is the extreme they have done" to the UT, he said at the event also attended by



Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan and RJD leader and Leader of Opposition in the Bihar Assembly, Tejashwi Yadav.

Further, referring to enhancing BJP's powers, he said that in Punjab "hundreds of kms of land was unilaterally taken away and given to BSF, without any question, discussion and they do the same to Tamil Nadu."

"We always speak about unity from diversity...our vision is unity from diversity, their vision is unity through conformity," he said attacking the BJP. He further charged that the judiciary, the Election Commission and media are "systematically" attacked one by one "but the BJP should not be under any illusions."

"We are going to fight them, we are going to defeat them," he asserted.

Gandhi also trained his guns on Prime Minister Narendra Modi, charging him with trying "to impose some other idea on

the people of Tamil Nadu."

Abdullah, former CM of Jammu and Kashmir, ruing the abrogation of Article 370, said the people of Jammu and Kashmir, his father and himself "underwent a period of adversity we could seldom imagine."

"I don't think anyone of us thought what we could see on Aug 5, 2019. That is when we woke up to who our real friends were. Because, a lot of people who we thought were friends were silent. All the people we thought would speak up at the unjust way people of Jammu and Kashmir were treated said nothing. A lot of people we had great close personal relations with were not only just silent but were complicit and supportive of what happened on August 5, 2019," he said about the issue.

He thanked Stalin and his party for extending support to the people of Jammu and Kashmir on the issue.

Earlier, Gandhi released DMK president and Chief Minister Stalin's autobiography, titled 'Ungalil Oruvan,' (One Among You) here.

The first copy of the book was received by senior DMK leader and state Water Resources Minister Duraimurugan.

Reliance General Insurance participates in the PMFBY's policy distribution drive

MUMBAI: Reliance General Insurance Company Ltd (RGICL), India's 4th largest private general insurance company, has announced its participation in the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana's nationwide Doorstep Crop Insurance Policy Distribution Mega Drive - 'Meri Policy Mere Hath' under 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav Campaign

- India@75'. The Company fully supports the initiative and is committed towards playing its part in building a better financial ecosystem for the farmers.

To drive the initiative effectively, Reliance General Insurance has set up special camps at gram panchayat/village level to educate farmers, who are enrolled with Reliance General In-

surance under the PMFBY, about their existing crop insurance policies. Through this initiative, the farmer will receive first-hand information, and details of their crop insurance such as sum insured amount, types of crops insured and the premium amount. The Company will also distribute physical documents of the existing policies to the farmers.

JU To Be Declared Innovation, Research Hub Under NEP: Kansal



Observer News Service

JAMMU: Jammu University will be declared an innovation and Research hub under the New National Education Policy (NEP).

This was announced by the Principal Secretary Higher Education, Rohit Kansal on Monday. He was addressing the valedictory function of the week long 'Vigyan Sarvatre Pujyate' festival held here at University of Jammu.

The festival coincided with National Science Day celebrated nation over by numerous academic institutions. On the occasion the Principal Secretary maintained that the message on the eve is adoption and exploration of the knowledge of science and technology for overall development of the society.

Speaking, the Principal Secretary urged the audience that technology in itself is not the end but a means to provide better life to the people. Humanity has no other option than to relentlessly march on the path of research and innovation, the purpose of all innovation must be the benefit of the humanity and the upliftment of the poorest.

He said that technology is not meant for millionaires or the upper crust only but for the welfare and well being of all the 7 billion people of the world. He further elu-

cidated that technology is worth only when it comes to the rescue of under privileged, the sick, poor and the helpless.

Kansal mentioned that technology has an appreciable role in every sphere be it drones in agriculture, use of AR/VR in medicine, weather forecasting, block chain technology or space technology everything has a positive impact on the lives of human race. He said that technology, innovation, growth and progress should be conservative in terms of sustainability and should ensure prevalence of fair, equitable and just world.

The Principal Secretary also noted that India has a long tradition of science and innovation. The contributions of ancient India in medicine, surgery, astronomy, mathematics and physics were immense. Many Indian innovations reached Europe via the Arab world.

Referring to the role of universities, he said that the University of Jammu would be promoted as one of the leading institutions in promotion of Science and Technology in the UT. Moreover he mentioned that the University would be given the role of mentoring and promotion for imparting studies in the faculties of Science and Technology in all of its constituent colleges under the NEP-2020.

IUST Celebrates National Science Day



Observer News Service

AWANTIPORA: On the occasion of 'National Science Day', Islamic University of Science & Technology (IUST), Awantipora in collaboration with Sophisticated Analytical Instrumentation Facility (SAIF) Punjab University, Chandigarh organised the "Synergistic Training Program: Utilizing the Scientific and Technological Infrastructure (STUTI)".

The program is part Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav and is supported by the Department of Science and Technology (DST), New Delhi.

Eminent Scientist and Vice Chancellor, IUST Prof. Shakil A. Romshoo highlighted the importance of this initiative in popularising science among J&K's student community for the welfare of society.

While emphasizing the interdisciplinary approach as chalked out by NEP-2020, Prof. Romshoo stressed on need to create a supporting and quality ecosystem for basic science in the ambit of education and for understanding the same using various instrumentation facilities and research in our institutions.

Dean Academic Affairs Prof. Manzoor Ahmad Malik, stressed on the contribution of science towards society and sustainable development

to reconcile environmental protection and development. He called on students to focus on various career opportunities in science.

Dean School of Science and Organising Chairman STUTI Prof. M. A. Khuroo while welcoming the guests highlighted the significance of the program, which was organised to aim at human resource development and their capacity building through open access to science and technology infrastructure.

Dean Research Prof. A. H. Moon deliberated upon the importance of time management and problem solving approach. He further emphasised on the importance of mother language and skill development in NEP-2020.

The focus of the program was to popularize science and research among the budding science students and various activities like quizzes, declamation, poster making competition and field visits were organised for visiting class XI and XII students. Pertinently, around 100 science students of class XI and XII from prominent schools of the valley including Presentation Convent Higher Secondary School (Srinagar), Mantaqi Memorial Higher Secondary School (Awantipora), Hajahad Public School (Awantipora) participated in the program.

Traffic Cops Allegedly Beat Up Passenger

Agencies

SRINAGAR: A passenger was hospitalized after sustaining injuries after he was allegedly beaten up by traffic police personnel in Qazigund along Jammu-Srinagar highway on Monday.

Reports said that an altercation broke out between some passengers and traffic a police personnel after the latter, according to him, damaged glass of a vehicle stranded along the road.

"The traffic police personnel, some six in number, dealt several blows to one of the passengers namely Shafaqat Aslam Bhat of Nowgam Banihal, leaving him severely injured.

Official sources said that injured was taken to a nearby hospital at Qazigund from where the doctors referred him to GMC Anantnag for advanced treatment.

When contacted, SHO Qazigund told a local news agency GNS that a police team visited the spot and assessed the situation.

Burglary Bid At Bank Branch In Poonch

POONCH: Burglars made an abortive attempt to loot a branch of Jammu and Kashmir Bank at Bhatadhrur Harni area of Mendhar Sub Division in Poonch district last night, officials said on Monday.

They said the attempted theft came to light when staff

members reported for duty this morning.

Police besides expert and bank teams were rushed to the spot as soon as information was received, they said.

SDPO Mendhar Sheezan Bhat told a local news agency GNS that investigations are underway.

PCB Claims Online Threat Sent To Aussie Player Agar's Partner But Wasn't Credible

Press Trust of India

LAHORE: The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has claimed that a threat was sent to the partner of touring Australian cricketer Ashton Agar on social media but it was not found to be "credible" after investigation.

Australia are touring Pakistan after 24 years amid tight security. "The PCB is aware of a social media post, of which the nature and content has been investigated by the PCB, CA and combined Government security agencies," the board said in a statement.

"There are extensive security plans in place for this type of social media activity, which, in this case, is not considered a risk. No further comment will be made at this time," it added.

The message was sent to Agar's partner, Madeleine, on social media, which was immediately reported to Cricket Australia and the PCB.

"The Australian team security



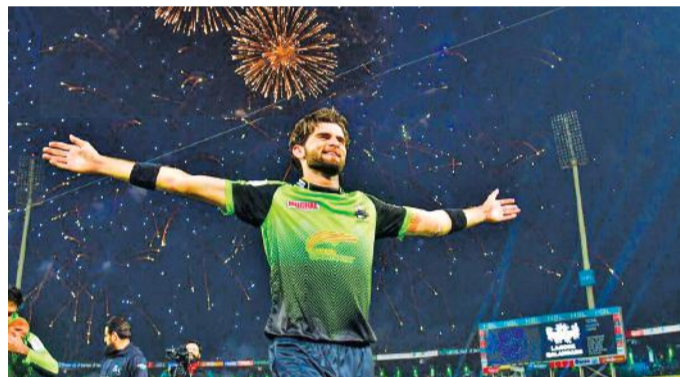
also investigated the matter and do not believe it is a credible threat," the source said.

When New Zealand toured Pakistan last September threats were sent out to the team social media.

Eventually, the Black Caps abandoned the tour without playing their white-ball series on the advice of their government which said there was a direct security threat to the touring side.

Pakistan has hosted only six Test matches since 2009 due to security reasons after the Sri Lanka team was attacked by terrorists in Lahore in March, 2009.

Shaheen Afridi Becomes Youngest Captain To Win T20 League



Press Trust of India

LAHORE: Left-arm fast bowler Shaheen Shah Afridi became the youngest captain to win a major T20 league title when his team Lahore Qalandars beat Multan Sultan in the Pakistan Super League final in Lahore.

Afridi is 21. Previously, Australia's former captain Steve Smith held the honour, having led Sydney Sixers to the Big Bash title in 2012 at the age of 22.

For someone who had never captained at any level, Afridi's appointment as captain of the Lahore franchise had come as a big surprise to cricket fans before the start of the PSL but, on Sunday night, he proved that the Lahore management had taken the right decision.

Even former Pakistan captain

Shahid Afridi, who is set to become the pacer's father in law, had not backed the decision to appoint him skipper at this point in time and had advised him against accepting the responsibility.

"Yes I told him not to take the responsibility now but he said he wanted to do it and can handle the pressure," Shahid Afridi had said in an interview.

"It is a big moment for me and my team but I think everyone contributed to the title win and they supported me a lot from the start," the triumphant captain said after the final that was played before a crowd of around 33,000.

Multan were led by Pakistan's wicketkeeper-batter Mohammad Rizwan, who is the vice-captain of the national red ball team.

Afghanistan Beats Bangladesh By 7 Wickets In 3rd ODI



Agencies

CHITTAGONG: Opener Rahmanullah Gurbaz struck a brilliant 106 not out as Afghanistan avoided a clean sweep by sealing a seven-wicket win against Bangladesh in the third one-day international on Monday.

Apart from a consolation victory in the three-match series, the result also gave the Afghans a valuable 10 Super League points.

Legspinner Rashid Khan claimed 3-37 as Bangladesh was dismissed for 192 in 46.5 overs. Gurbaz, who has now converted all three of his half-centuries to centuries in just nine matches, then helped Afghanistan race to the victory with 59 balls remaining.

Rahmat Shah scored 47 and opener Riaz Hasan added 35.

Gurbaz struck seven fours and four sixes for his 110-ball 106 not out and shared two important partnerships to edge the side closer to victory.

He and Riaz gave Afghanistan a solid start, combining for a 79-run opening stand before left-arm spinner Shakib Al Hasan had the latter stumped to break through.

100 with Rahmat Shah for the second wicket.

Offspinner Mehidy Hasan struck twice, dismissing Shah to end the partnership and then took the wicket of Afghan skipper Hashmatullah Shahi.

Gurbaz brought up his century off 103 balls, pushing pacer Mustafizur Rahman through cover for doubles and soon after that fittingly finished the game with a single off Mehidy towards square leg.

Fresh from his 136 in the second game, opener Liton Das made 86 to be the top scorer for Bangladesh. Shakib scored 30 and Mahmudullah was not out on 29.

Pacer Fazalhaq Farooqi dismissed skipper Tamim Iqbal for the third time in a row to give Afghanistan a good start after Bangladesh opted to bat first.

Liton and Shakib then added 61 runs before the latter dragged Azmatullah Omarzai's delivery onto his stump.

Rashid triggered a collapse, dismissing Mushfiqur Rahim and Yasir Ali in quick succession.

Liton hit seven fours in his 113-ball 86 before he was dismissed by Mohammad Nabi (2-29) as Bangladesh lost the last six wickets for just 39 runs.

Goals Galore As J&K Annual Football Championship Restarts



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The First Phase of 29th Annual Football Championship restarted on Monday with DFA Bandipora and DFA Baramulla registering wins in two end-to-end matches at the Synthetic Turf TRC here.

The Annual Championship was earlier stopped due to the

heavy snowfall in the region.

The first match on Monday was played between DFA Bandipora and DFA Zone Pampore. The Bandipora team defeated Pampore by 4 goals to 2.

The second match was played between DFA Baramulla and DFA Kulgam. DFA Baramulla defeated DFA Kulgam 3-2 in an action-packed match. The Young

Turks of DFA Kulgam exhibited quality football and fought to the last minute of the game.

Mr. Peer Sirajuddin, Vice President North Zone, JKFA was the Chief Guest on the occasion and was introduced with both the teams. The Championship is organised by J&K Football Association in collaboration with J&K Sports Council.

IPL 2022

Mayank Agarwal Named Captain Of Punjab Kings

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Opener Mayank Agarwal was on Monday named the captain of Punjab Kings for the upcoming Indian Premier League.

A member of the Indian Test team, the 31-year-old from Bengaluru was one of the two players retained by Punjab Kings alongside young pacer Arshdeep Singh ahead of the mega auction earlier this month.

"I have been at Punjab Kings since 2018 and I take a lot of pride in representing this fantastic unit. I am delighted to be given the opportunity to lead the team," Agarwal said in a press release issued by the franchise.

"I take over this responsibility with utmost sincerity, but at the same time, I believe my job will be made easier with



the talent we have at the Punjab Kings squad this season."

Agarwal has been an integral part of Punjab Kings since 2018, has served as the squad's vice-captain and has also briefly led the team last season.

Agarwal, who made his IPL debut in 2011, aggregated more than 400 runs in the last two seasons. He has also played 19 Tests scoring 1,429 runs, including four hundreds, and five ODIs, for India.

ICC Will Have 'Managed Environment' As Not Practical For Players To Be Locked In Bubble: CEO Allardice On Women's World Cup



Press Trust of India

DUBAI: The ICC will not confine teams in strict bio-bubbles during the month-long women's World Cup starting in New Zealand from March 4, CEO Geoff Allardice said on Monday, calling on players to be "sensible" in the "managed environment" so that the tournament passes off without a COVID outbreak.

Allardice also made it clear that there will be RT-PCR tests but not very "frequent" like earlier times as they expect the players to stay away from possible transmission zones.

The strict nature of hard quarantine and bio-bubbles have already been causing mental health issues across sports and ICC is well aware of the pressing issues.

"I think the approach is around having a managed environment around the tournament," Allardice said during a media interaction.

"Testing will be infrequent; it won't be daily testing. It's really about players taking responsibility knowing they are in the country for a month and living away for that period not locked into a very tight bubble."

"It's not going to be practical; it's certainly not going to allow teams to play their best on the field," Allardice put forth his point as it should be.

However, he wants the players to be responsible as there will always be cases but the U-19 World Cup has shown that symptoms are not particularly severe.

"There are some general guidelines that are required, but we're asking players and teams to just be sensible, stay away from areas that are likely to create transmission."

"The other thing is, we found out in last few tournaments - like at the Under-19 World Cup - is even though we had number of positive tests, the number of people displaying symptoms were very low. We want to focus on keeping people safe and healthy. It's a bit of a change from where we may have been six months ago."

Even in the event of an outbreak, the matches will go ahead with as low as nine players in each side, but Allardice hoped that the situation would not become so dire.

"It was something that we had to do over the last few months since the Omicron outbreak. Almost all of our tournaments, we have been challenged with the number of all players being unavailable due to isolation for positive COVID tests," Allardice said.

The nine-player-a-side game is already in place in the ICC guidelines related to playing conditions and has been in effect since the U-19 World Cup in the West Indies, where India won the title for a record fifth time.

There were COVID outbreaks during that event with India, at one stage, left with half a dozen infected players.

"I think one of the shifts is we had quite a close call in the West Indies with the men's Under-19

World Cup, a month or so ago, where there were a number of teams that had breaks."

"And I think we needed to have some contingency plans. The bottom line is we want eleven versus eleven. We have got squads of 15, I think all teams are travelling with some extra reserve players as well, as a contingency," the ICC CEO said.

"...the announcement or introduction of those protocols was very much given the uncertainty of the events that we were dealing with. It is just a contingency. And I am hoping that every match takes place as scheduled with no interruptions," Allardice added.

It's been challenging Allardice also admitted that it has been a challenge for the cricket body to host events.

"...at the time of the events, the COVID situation is unfolding, so, so it has been challenging," Allardice said when specifically asked how difficult it has been to plan the event in New Zealand, where COVID restrictions have been among the strictest in the world.

"The issue with quarantine and isolation in the lead up to a tournament, is something we had to work around in different ways for the last 18 months for international cricket and for our events, for the last nine months or so."

"For us it is a challenge because we deal with different governments in country to country and they all have a different approach to dealing with COVID," he added.

Olympic Body Calls For Russia To Be Excluded From Sports



Agencies

GENEVA: In a sweeping move to isolate and condemn Russia after invading Ukraine, the International Olympic Committee urged sports bodies on Monday to exclude the country's athletes and officials from international events.

The IOC said it was needed to "protect the integrity of global sports competitions and for the safety of all the participants."

The decision opened the way for FIFA, the governing body of soccer, to exclude Russia from a World Cup qualifying playoff match on March 24. Poland has refused to play the scheduled game against Russia.

The Olympic body's call also applied to athletes and officials from Belarus, which has abetted Russia's invasion by allowing its territory to be used to station troops and launch military attacks.

The IOC said it acted "with a heavy heart" but the impact of war on Ukrainian sports outweighed the potential damage done to athletes from Russia and Belarus.

It was not a total blanket ban by the IOC. Where exclusion was "not possible on short notice for organizational or legal reasons," then teams from Russia and Belarus should compete as neutral athletes with no national flag, anthem or symbols, including at the upcoming Winter Paralympics in Beijing.

The IOC also withdrew the Olympic Order it gave Vladimir Putin in 2001, and other Russian officials since.

Sports bodies across Europe had

already moved against Russia on Monday by refusing to host or play against teams from the country.

Finland wants the Russian hockey team to be banned from the men's world championships it will host in May, the Swiss football federation said its women's team will not play Russia in July at the European Championship, and German football club Schalke said it had decided to end its long-standing partnership with Russian state-owned energy giant Gazprom.

FIFA declined to ban Russia from the World Cup over the weekend. Instead, the football body said the country's national team will have to compete as Football Union of Russia as punishment. Besides Poland, both Sweden and the Czech Republic, Russia's next potential opponents, have said they would refuse to take the field against them.

Another of Russia's future opponents, Albania, also said Sunday it would not play against that country in any sports. Russia and Albania are scheduled to meet twice in June in the UEFA Nations League soccer tournament. The group also includes Iceland and Israel.

In hockey, the sport's governing body has come under pressure from Finland and Switzerland to ban Russia and Belarus, which are both due to play at the world championships in May in Helsinki and Tampere.

Finnish Hockey Association chairman Harri Nummela said in a statement Monday it had talks with the Zurich-based IIHF to exclude the two countries from the sport internationally. (AP)

Ukraine's 20 Paralympic Athletes Have Yet To Arrive In China

Agencies

None of the 20 athletes from the Ukrainian Paralympic team has reached Beijing with the Games opening at the end of the week, the International Paralympic Committee said Monday.

IPC spokesman Craig Spence, in an interview with The Associated Press, said he was hopeful the athletes would arrive in China for Friday's opening ceremony despite difficult logistics.

He declined to disclose the team's whereabouts, citing safety concerns and Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

"We're in regular dialogue with Ukraine about their participation at the Games, and we're working hard behind the scenes to get them here," Spence said.

He said there were no flights out of the Ukrainian capital Kyiv. In addition, flights entering Chi-

na for the Paralympics - as well as for the just-closed Olympics - can originate only from a few designated hub airports.

This is part of China's severe "closed-loop system" for the Olympics and Paralympics, which limits athletes, staff and journalists to designated hotels, venues, and a media center with no contact with Beijing and its 20 million residents.

"For several reason we are not confirming their location or providing specific updates," Spence said. "The health and welfare of the delegation is our No. 1 priority. The less said about where they are, the better."

He said some of Russia's 71 athletes had arrived, but he did not exactly know how many.

About 650 athletes from 49 delegations, including Ukraine, are expected for the Paralympics, which open Friday and close on March 13.

Liverpool Beat Chelsea 11-10 On Penalties To Win League Cup



Agencies

LONDON: Liverpool won their first domestic final in a decade by beating Chelsea 11-10 on penalties to clinch the League Cup 2021-22 on Sunday.

All 10 penalties had been scored before it was down to the goalkeepers to take their turn and Kepa Arrizabalaga missed after Liverpool counterpart Caoimhin Kelleher had netted.

Kepa had been brought off the bench as a penalties specialist just as the clock hit 120 minutes at the end of extra time, replacing Edouard Mendy whose saves had kept the final locked at 0-0.

The move paid off for manager Thomas Tuchel in the UEFA Super Cup in August but this time there was no trophy for Chelsea to add to the Champions League and Club World Cup titles won in the last year.

Unlike Chelsea, Liverpool did allow the 23-year-old Kelleher to keep his place as goalkeeper in the cup competitions rather than inserting the first-choice Alisson Becker for the final.

"In professional football there should be space for sentiment," Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp said. "He is a young boy, we ask him to do a lot, he starts playing in the competition and then we get to the final and I tell him he cannot play?"

"I am two things, a football manager and a human being, and the human being won this time and it is so nice that it paid off. He deserves it."

Liverpool's last domestic cup final success was the 2012 League Cup under Kenny Dalglish. Liverpool has won the Champions League in 2019 and Premier League in 2020 under Klopp.