



P3 CITY

ACID ATTACK CASE: BAIL APPLICATION OF ACCUSED JUVENILE REJECTED

Juvenile Justice Board (JJB) on Wednesday rejected the bail application of the accused juvenile involved in Srinagar acid attack case. After hearing defense counsel and additional public

THINK

P5 THIS CANNOT BE MY KASHMIR

With the heavenly landscape, the music of gushing rivers, shining cascades and magnificent lakes; the fragrance of tulips and stunning Chinar trees; the beauty of snow-clad mountains, verdant pastures and meadows; the enchanting



P7 STATE

MAJOR SETBACK TO APNI PARTY IN JAMMU

In a major setback to Jammu and Kashmir Apni Party, its women's wing state president Namrata Sharma and several of her women colleagues



19 TH RAMZAN		
	Iftar TODAY	Sehri TOMMOROW
FIQAH HANAFIYA	7:10	4:25
FIQAH JAFARIYA	7:17	4:23

Widom Quote!

We choose our joys and sorrows long before we experience them
- Khalil Gibran

NEWS DIGEST

Single New Corona Case In J&K

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir reported one fresh Covid case on Wednesday that took the infection tally to 4,53,956, officials said.

The lone case was reported from Srinagar district in Kashmir division, they said. There are 53 active cases, while the overall **More on P6**

Tourist Dies Of Suspected Heart Attack

SRINAGAR: A woman tourist from Hyderabad died on Wednesday of a suspected heart attack at a hotel in this capital city. Bawana Parak (68) wife of Makish Parak, a resident of Hyderabad, experienced some health complications on Wednesday **More on P6**

Soldier Among 3 Killed In Road Accidents

JAMMU: Three people, including an army personnel, were killed and two others injured in separate road accidents in Samba, Ramban and Rajouri districts of Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday, officials said. The army jawan, Manpreet Singh (25) of Kathua, died after his private vehicle **More on P6**

Three Men Booked Under PSA In J&K

JAMMU: Two alleged drug peddlers and a notorious criminal were booked under the stringent Public Safety Act (PSA) in Reasi and Jammu districts of Jammu and Kashmir, police said on Wednesday. The alleged criminal, Sunny Kumar, was arrested from the Bishnah area of Jammu and booked under the PSA on the orders of district **More on P6**

High Alert In Jammu Ahead Of PM's Visit

Surveillance Up On Borders, Checkpoints Established Along Highways; Frisking Intensified

Zaid Bin Shabir

SRINAGAR: The Security has been beefed up across Jammu and Kashmir, especially the winter capital in an attempt to thwart any subversive activities or untoward incidents in the run-up to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's one day visit to the Union Territory on April 24.

Police and paramilitary forces have been deployed in strength and are conducting random checking of vehicles at hundreds of places in J&K, a senior police officer said.

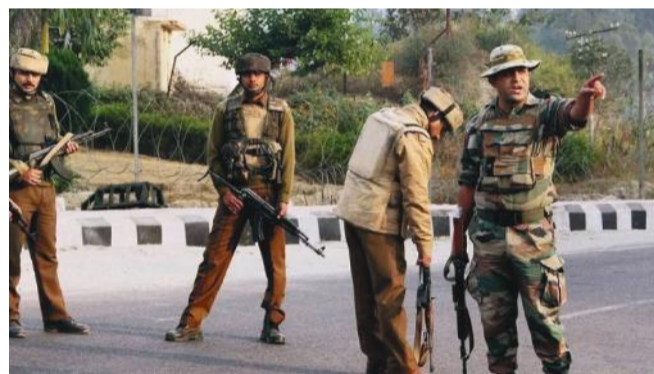
Special checking points have been set up at various places in Jammu region including entry

and exit points as a precautionary measure to maintain law and order. The move is aimed at foiling any attempt by militants to strike in the erstwhile state ahead of during the Prime Minister's visit.

Notably, this will be PM Modi's first ever visit to Jammu and Kashmir since the erstwhile state's semi-autonomous status was revoked by New Delhi and bifurcated it into two Union Territories.

The PM's visit to Palli in Jammu division on April 24 is also expected to witness some inaugurations and announcements of developmental projects.

As per sources, **More on P6**



KO File Photo

Mysterious Blast Injures Couple In Rajouri

A couple was injured in a mysterious explosion outside a slum in Rajouri district of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said Wednesday. Vinod Kumar (25) and his wife Kranti Devi (20), residents of Uttar Pradesh, were injured in the blast outside their shanty at village Jaglanoo in Kotranka area, they said. A mysterious explosion took place outside a slum **More on P6**

SECURITY FORCES HAVE STARTED TO CARRY out surprise searches in several districts especially in Samba district to ensure security for the public rally of Prime Minister Modi."

Six AGMUT Officers Shifted To J&K

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Ministry of Home Affairs on Wednesday ordered transfer of six Indian Administrative Service (IAS) and Indian Police Service (IPS) officers of AGMUT cadre to Jammu & Kashmir with immediate effect.

Among those transferred to J&K, four are IAS and two IPS officers, the order issued by the Under Secretary to the Government of **More on P6**

J&K Govt To CEOs: 'Ensure Teachers Not Engaged In Non-Teaching Activity'

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir government has directed the Chief Education Officers (CEOs) to ensure that no teaching staff is engaged in non-teaching activities to safeguard the quality of education.

According to the official documents, Nodal Officer NEP cell Balbir Sudan has said that he was directed to ask the CEOs schools to ensure no teacher is engaged in non-teaching activity.

"Since, there is a government order that no teacher will be engaged for non-teaching activity, all the CEOs have been directed to certify at earliest that no teacher is engaged in non-teaching activity so that the academic part of the schools may be safe-guarded," it reads.

The documents further reveal that the Principal Secretary, School Education Department in a meeting held in last week of March has said, "The department has decided that the schools

with enrollment zero and less than 3 will be merged with the nearest possible school keeping in view the access aspect with the co-operation of PRIs so that there may be justified distribution of teachers and other resources to acquire the optimum Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR).

Notably, the government relieved 22 staff members from the Directorate of School Education Kashmir. Principal Secretary, School Education Department, **More on P6**

300 More Companies Of Central Forces To Be Deployed

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Amid five five-tier security cover, at least 300 additional companies of security forces will be deployed for the peaceful conduct of annual Amarnath Yatra commencing on June 30 this year, officials in the Ministry of Home Affairs said Wednesday.

The security top brass has ensured deployment of forces in various layers while pilgrims will be provided with wrist bands fitted with micro-chips, as part of the renewed security measure.



File Photo

Officials in the MHA said that at least 300 additional companies will be deployed for the incident-free pilgrimage. "Maximum number of

companies will be from CRPF. We are expecting some 150 companies of CRPF to arrive for Yatra duty. The process has already started **More on P6**

Al-Badr Member Declared 'Terrorist'

Agencies

New Delhi: The Centre designated Al Badr member Arjumand Gulzar Dar alias Hamza Burhan as terrorist for his involvement in a series of militant acts in Jammu and Kashmir.

According to a Gazette notification issued on Tuesday by the Union Ministry of Home Affairs, Arjumand Gulzar Dar alias Hamza Burhan alias Doctor went to Pakistan on valid documents where he joined Al Badr.

He has been an active "terrorist" and commander of Al Badr, and since then and currently has been operating from Pakistan, said the Gazette notification.

Dar has been motivating youths to join the said outfit and has been funding the "terror activities" of Al Badr, ever since he went to Pakistan, the notification further said.

He has also been found involved in cases of recovery of explosives from the over ground workers **More on P6**

Despite being geographically distant from Kashmir how Kashmiris in West maintain cultural, social, and emotional linkages with their homeland. Tune-in to latest KO podcast

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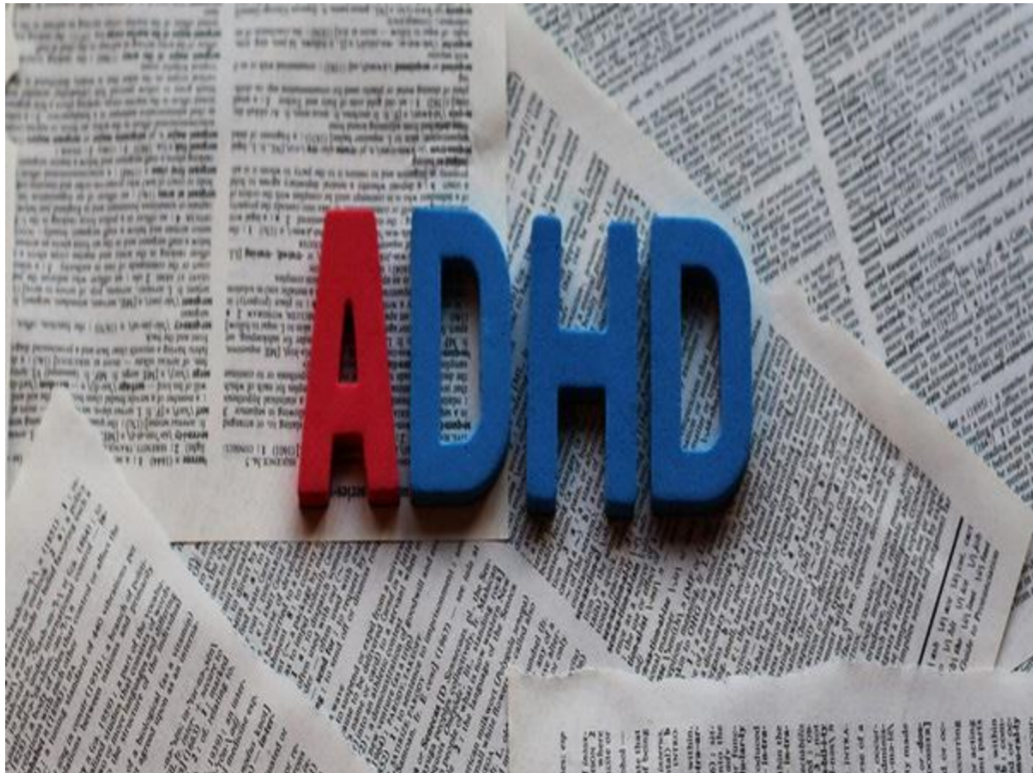
Monday - Saturday (9am - 6pm)

No 5- Dal Lake Boulevard Srinagar, 190001, Kashmir

Two Out Of Five Adults With ADHD Have Excellent Mental Health: Study

ANI

A new study has found that two in five adults (42 per cent) with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) were in excellent mental health. The findings were published in the International Journal of Applied Positive Psychology. To be considered in excellent mental health, participants had to report: freedom from mental illness in the previous year (i.e., substance use disorders, depression, anxiety, suicidality); almost daily happiness or life satisfaction in the past month; and high levels of social and psychological well-being in the past month. "This finding provides a very hopeful message for both individuals struggling with ADHD and their loved ones," said lead author Esme Fuller-Thomson, professor at the University of Toronto's Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work and director of the Institute for Life Course and Aging. "This research marks a paradigm shift. Most previous research, including my own, has focused on mental illness among those with ADHD so to focus on those who are thriving mentally is refreshing and very heartening," added Esme Fuller-Thomson. Investigators examined a nationally representative sample of 480 respondents with ADHD and 21,099 respondents without ADHD from Statistics Canada's Canadian Community Health Survey-Mental Health. The study identified several factors that were associated with complete mental health among those with ADHD. Individuals who were free from chronic pain and had no lifetime history of depression or anxiety were more



likely to be thriving. "Our findings emphasize the importance of addressing comorbid mental health issues when providing care to individuals with ADHD," said co-author Bradyn Ko, a recent graduate of the Master of Social Work (MSW) program at the University of Toronto. "Those with ADHD who also struggle with depression and anxiety face substantial barriers to achieving complete mental health and may benefit from targeted care. Cognitive Behavioral Therapy is a very promising intervention that has been shown to be effective for those with ADHD" Other factors that were asso-

ciated with complete mental health include being married, being physically active, and using spirituality to cope with daily challenges. "These results highlight potentially modifiable risk factors to support the well-being of adults with ADHD," said co-author Lauren Carrique, a recent MSW graduate from the University of Toronto "When compared to being sedentary, engaging in optimal levels of physical activity approximately quadrupled the odds of complete mental health. This underlines the potential value of physical activity in helping individuals with ADHD achieve excellent mental health."

The study also identified specific subpopulations of adults with ADHD who may be less likely to be in complete mental health, such as women. "The finding that female respondents were less likely to be in flourishing mental health highlights the specific vulnerabilities among women with ADHD," said co-author Andie MacNeil, a recent Master of Social Work graduate from the University of Toronto. "This aligns with other research that has found higher rates of depression, anxiety, and suicidality among women with ADHD, which may partially explain this gap in mental well-being."

The prevalence of complete mental health among those without ADHD was 73.8 per cent, which was significantly higher than the 42.0 per cent of individuals with ADHD who were in complete mental health. "Although we were surprised and delighted to find that two in five adults with ADHD were in excellent mental health, they are still lagging far behind their peers without ADHD, for whom 74 per cent were thriving. There is still a long way to go in closing the mental health gap between those with and without ADHD," said Fuller-Thomson. "This study calls attention to this gap, while also emphasizing potential mechanisms to reduce this discrepancy."



This research marks a paradigm shift. Most previous research, including my own, has focused on mental illness among those with ADHD so to focus on those who are thriving mentally is refreshing and very heartening

از نیابت کتزر

مضمون درخواست : بلال احمد دارولہ محمد صمان ڈار ساکنہ رنیر پورہ بالا ہراو عطا کیگی DOB certificate بکن دختر ماہرا بلال اشتہار ہراو آگاہی ہر خاص و عام معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں دفتر ہذا کو ایک درخواست بابت حصول تاریخ پیدائش سرٹیفیکٹ موصول ہوئی ہیں۔ پولیس اسٹیشن کتزر وچوکیدار علاقہ نے سال کے پسر کی پیدائش اندراج نہیں کی ہے سال بلال احمد دارولہ محمد صمان ڈار بیان کرتا ہے کہ اسکی دتر ماہرا بلال کی تاریخ پیدائش 13-02-2019 کو ہوئی ہے۔ اس نسبت ہر خاص و عام کو مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ اگر کسی شخص یا شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا اعتراض ساتھ یوم کے اندر پیش کریں۔ میعاد گزرنے کے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

نائب تحصیلدار کتزر az k r

از نیابت کتلم

مضمون درخواست: نائب: فیضان احمد میر، بیٹیزان یوسف، بیٹیزان یوسف اولاد ن محمد یوسف میر ساکنہ آکھرن تحصیل دیسری ضلع کوٹاکم بخش حصول بیکوار سرٹیفیکٹ تحت 294/SRO اختیار ہراو آگاہی ہر خاص و عام۔ معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں ساکنان نے ایک درخواست بخش حصول بیکوار سرٹیفیکٹ دفتر ہذا میں پیش کیا ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے۔ پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی جس سے عیاں ہے کہ ساکنان کا کہنے بذیل افراد ہیں۔

نمبر شمار	نام و ولایت	عمر	پیشہ	آمدنی
01	محمد یوسف میر ولد عالم علی الدین میر	45 سال	مزدوری	8000/=
02	جیلہ بانو زوجہ محمد یوسف میر	39 سال	گھر بیگام	
03	فیضان احمد میر ولد محمد یوسف میر	22 سال	زیر تعلیم	
04	بیٹیزان یوسف ولد محمد یوسف میر	20 سال	زیر تعلیم	
05	میزان محمد یوسف ولد محمد یوسف میر	17 سال	زیر تعلیم	

اسطور ساکنان کا کہنے 05 افراد پر مشتمل ہیں۔ ساکنان کے کہنے کی کل ماہور آمدنی 80000 روپیہ ہے تاکہ ہے جب کی ساکنان کے کہنے کی سالانہ آمدنی 1,20,000 روپیہ ہے۔ لہذا اگر کسی شخص یا شخص کو کوئی اعتراض ہوگا تو وہ دفتر میں اپنا عذر یا ایک ہفتہ کے اندر اندر پیش کریں معیاد گزرنے کے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

تحریر الصدو نائب تحصیلدار۔ rna

از نیابت سرکل ہارون

Subject: Issuance of dependent / legal heir certificate in favour of family members of late Mubarak Ahmad Qadri R/o Shalimar Srinagar
اشتہار ہراو آگاہی ہر خاص و عام معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر سے نسبت راقم نے پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی ہے جس سے عیاں ہے کہ متوفی مہارک احمد قادری ولد محمد یوسف قادری ساکنہ شالیمار کا باشندہ تھا اور برے فوٹکی سرٹیفیکٹ اجراء شدہ سرٹیفیکٹ کار پوریشن موثر 27-03-2022 فوت ہو چکا ہے۔ متوفی کے وارثان جائز بذیل ہیں۔

نازنین بانو بیوہ متوفی 48 سال گھر بیگام سعید صہب قادری دختر 30 سال زیر تعلیم سعید منیب قادری فرزند 27 سال زیر تعلیم سعید شازین قادری دختر 24 سال زیر تعلیم

اسطور متوفی کہنے 5 افراد پر مشتمل ہے اور کوئی وارث جائز نہیں ہے سرٹیفیکٹ زیر بحث اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص یا شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا اعتراض سات یوم کے اندر پیش کریں۔

نائب تحصیلدار ہارون سرکل inf

The Jammu And Kashmir State Board Of School Education

BRANCH OFFICE MAGAM
The candidates whose photograph is published in this notice is claiming to have lost the original marks certificate of 10th under Below mentioned particulars
Name : Rehana Bashir
Fater's Name: Bashir Ahamd Bhat
Mother's Name: Mala
Regd No: NI1341430132
Details of Marks Certificate lost
Secondary School Examination (class 10th)
Roll No 266284 Session /Year Annual / Reg. 2012

Now the candidate has applied for Duplicate Marks Card. Anybody (if) having any objection may file the some before under signed with (07) Seven days from the date of publication of this notice. Besides, the original marks card is teated as cancelled.
Sd/ Assistant Secretary
Sub Office Magam
bmg

CLOTHING & HOME APPLIANCES

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G-mail- yardimciunique92@gmail.com
I.G: yardimci_multi_venture
F.B: yardimci multiVenture

ELECTRONICS

10X MOBILE STORE

All types of Mobile and Mobile Accessories
Main Market Sannat Nagar Srinagar
Contact:- 7889657769

TECH WORLD

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

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM KASHMIR NOTICE

Where as a joint application has been relieved from owner.
Shri : Naser Ahmad Budu S/o: Ghulam Mohammad Budu R/o: Choon Budgam as Transferor) & Shri. Irshad Ahmad Ganie S/o Ghulam Mohammad Ganie R/o Giraj Ganderbal.as Transferee) for transfer of Tata Sumo Maxi Cab Carriage route permit No.1044/MC/ Budgam vehicle No. JK04C-0490. Now it is therefore notified for general information that objections, if any to the proposed transfer of the said route permit/ vehicle shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 07 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper.
No. ARTO/ BUDGAM. 239
Dated 20/04/2022
Assistant Regional Transport officer
Budgam Kashmir
mcb

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for the information of the general public that I shabnam Nazir W/o Shabir Ahmad Mir R/o Sarnal Payeen Anantnag is going to apply for issuance of passport in my favour. While this name is recorded as such in the Aadhar Card however in the date of birth (DOB) certificate issued by the Board of school Education in the year 1979 when I was unmarried my name is recorded as Shabnam Nazir D/o Nazir Ahmad Subsequently in April 1991 I got married with Shabir Ahmad Mir S/o Ghulam Nabi Mir R/o Sarnal Payeen Anantnag and thereafter my name got recorded as Shabnam Nazir W/o Shabir Ahmad Mir in all the documents including my Aadhar Card.
If any person has any objection to the issuance of my passport in the name of shabnam Nazir W/o Shabir Ahmad Mir he/she may file the same in the office of passport Seva Kendra Anantnag within seven days from the publication of this notice in the newspaper.

Shabnam Nazir
W/o Shabir Ahmad Mir
R/o Sarnal Payeen Anantnag rna

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:- Shabir Ahmad Khan
S/O :- Mohd Yaqoob Khan
R/O: Serehan Pahalgam rna

PUBLIC NOTICE

The DOB of my Son has been wrongly written in school records as 14-07-2011 while her correct DOB is 14-07-2012 which needs to be rectified. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the HILLS INSTITUTE DAMHALL ANANTNAG (Hissam institute of Learning and Leadership) within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.
Mohd Iqbal Rather
F/o Wajahat Hussain Rather
R/o Hiller Kokernag rna

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER MUFFASIL R&B DIVISION BUDGAM FRESH NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

Single Cover
NIT No: 14/MDB /2022-23/794-814 DATED: 19/04/2022.

For and on behalf of the President of India, e-tenders are being invited on an item rate basis / percentage basis (as applicable) from approved and eligible Contractors registered with the J&K Government, CPWD, Railways, and other State/Central Governments for the following works:

S. No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/ Doc. (In Rupees)	Earnest money CDR/ FDR/BG (Rs)	Time of Completion (days)	Class of Contractor	Major Head of account	AA status	TS state
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
1.	Upgradation of Shamasabad inner links (Asthani link, Hospital link, Gundbal link and Sofi Mohalla) including Nunner Falchal road, Kremshore Shogapora road and Wager Dangerpora Colony from Masjid Sharief by way of Providing and Laying of 75mm thick compacted wet mix, 50mm thick compacted bituminous macadam and 25mm thick compacted semidense with 6mm thick seal coat (Machine mix to be laid with paver).	100.00	1600.00	2,00,000	25	AAY with HMPPO/ Hot Mix Plant Owner/ A class	C&T	SE PWD (R&B) Sgr-Bud/791 of 2021-22 dt: 12.03.22	SE PWD (R&B) Sgr-Bud/845 of 2021-22 dt: 16.03.22
2.	Upgradation of Yechigam Bugroo Mulpathri Reyar road by way of Providing and Laying of 75mm thick compacted wet mix, 50mm thick compacted bituminous macadam and 25mm thick compacted semidense with 6mm thick seal coat. (Machine mix to be laid with paver).	85.00	1600.00	1,70,000	20	AAY with HMPPO/ Hot Mix Plant Owner/ A class	C&T	SE PWD (R&B) Sgr-Bud/790 of 2021-22 dt: 12.03.22	SE PWD (R&B) Sgr-Bud/832 of 2021-22 dt: 16.03.22
3.	Upgradation of Inner links of Hamkhal Shikari Mohalla including Khag Lohren Hamchhipora road by way of Providing and Laying of 75mm thick compacted wet mix, 50mm thick compacted bituminous macadam and 25mm thick compacted semidense with 6mm thick seal coat (Machine mix to be laid with paver).	87.60	1600.00	1,75,200	21	AAY with HMPPO/ Hot Mix Plant Owner/ A class	C&T	SE PWD (R&B) Sgr-Bud/808 of 2021-22 dt: 12.03.22	SE PWD (R&B) Sgr-Bud/850 of 2021-22 dt: 16.03.22
4	Upgradation of Nasarpura Panzayri and Nasarpura Check including Ichama Saldwani road by way of Providing and Laying of 75mm thick compacted wet mix, 50mm thick compacted bituminous macadam and 25mm thick compacted semidense with 6mm thick seal coat (Machine mix to be laid with paver).	87.60	1600.00	1,75,200	21	AAY with HMPPO/ Hot Mix Plant Owner/ A class	C&T	SE PWD (R&B) Sgr-Bud/824 of 2021-22 dt: 14.03.22	SE PWD (R&B) Sgr-Bud/851 of 2021-22 dt: 16.03.22
5	Upgradation of Beeru Kangripura road KM 2nd including Degree College Lalpora road by way of Providing and Laying of 75mm thick compacted wet mix, 50mm thick compacted bituminous macadam and 25mm thick compacted semidense with 6mm thick seal coat (Machine mix to be laid with paver).	60.00	1600.00	1,20,000	17	AAY with HMPPO/ Hot Mix Plant Owner/ A class	C&T	SE PWD (R&B) Sgr-Bud/800 of 2021-22 dt: 12.03.22	SE PWD (R&B) Sgr-Bud/848 of 2021-22 dt: 16.03.22
6	Upgradation of Wachoo Hardpanzoo Arizal road by way of Providing and Laying of 75mm thick compacted wet mix, 50mm thick compacted bituminous macadam and 25mm thick compacted semidense with 6mm thick seal coat (Machine mix to be laid with paver).	30.00	1100.00	60,000	12	AAY with HMPPO/ Hot Mix Plant Owner/ A class	C&T	SE PWD (R&B) Sgr-Bud/793 of 2021-22 dt: 12.03.22	TS/05/C&T of 16.3.2022
7	Upgradation of Khag Inner links by way of Providing and Laying of 75mm thick compacted wet mix, 50mm thick compacted bituminous macadam and 25mm thick compacted semidense with 6mm thick seal coat (Machine mix to be laid with paver).	45.00	1100.00	90,000	14	AAY with HMPPO/ Hot Mix Plant Owner/ A class	C&T	SE PWD (R&B) Sgr-Bud/810 of 2021-22 dt: 12.03.22	SE PWD (R&B) Sgr-Bud/849 of 2021-22 dt: 16.03.22
8	Improvements/Upgradation of Syedabad colony Sheikhpora Budgam Lane No: 3 by way of Providing and Laying of 75mm thick compacted wet mix, 50mm thick compacted bituminous macadam and 25mm thick compacted semidense with 6mm thick seal coat (Machine mix to be laid with paver).	10.00	600.00	20,000	10	AAY with HMPPO/ Hot Mix Plant Owner/ A class	C&T	SE PWD (R&B) Sgr-Bud/807 of 2021-22 dt: 12.03.22	TS/02/C&T of 16.3.2022

Position of AAA: Accorded
Position of TS: Sanctioned
1. The bidding documents, which would include qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications/drawings, a bill of quantities (B.O.Q), a set of contract terms and conditions, and other details, can be viewed/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in on the dates listed below:-

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	19/04/2022
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	19/04/2022
3.	Bid submission Start Date	19/04/2022
4.	Bid Submission End Date	27/04/2022 upto 4.00 PM.
5.	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online) (Tech. Bids)	28/04/2022 11.00 AM in the office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Budgam

No:794-814 Dt: 19.04.2022
DIPK-767/22
Sd/- Executive Engineer
Muffasil (R&B) Division Budgam.

Srinagar Youth Develops Kashmir's First Ramazan App

Agencies

Srinagar: A youth from Srinagar has developed the Valley's first offline Ramadan app with multiple features.

Haider Ali Punjabi, 22, a resident of Srinagar pursuing PG from Computer Applications from Cluster University Srinagar developed the app titled "Iftarkar" used on all devices.

He said that Iftarkar is a Ramazan Companion App made for the people of Jammu and Kashmir. It features Iftar and Sehri timings for Ramazan along with an intuitive countdown for the same. "The application can be accessed on all devices. It is also available as an Android App from Google Play Store," he said.

"People usually look for Ramazan timings in newspapers but after the outbreak of Coronavirus they were not available. To help people, we constructed this website," he said.

"Since it received very good response, the app continued to be updated every year.

Iftarkar has been uniquely developed in a manner so that it can be accessed on slow internet speed, and doesn't need internet after the first time," he added.

"Unlike other timing apps, Iftarkar uses timings from reputed local sources like Darul Uloom Raheemiya Bandipora, Educational Trust Kashmir, Madrasa Arabia Islamia Taleem Ul Quran, Jammu, etc," he said.

Installation of Smart Meters

Chanapora

Residents Hit Roads To Protest Move

Agencies

Srinagar: The residents of Chanapora, Srinagar on Wednesday staged a protest against the installation of smart meters in their locality.

The protesters, including men, women and children, assembled at the main Chanapora road and raised slogans against the installation of smart meters. The protesters blocked the main road due to which the traffic was halted for hours, leaving the commuters to suffer.

The protesters said that the people in the locality are laborers class and the huge electricity tariff would be unaffordable for them.

They urged the concerned authorities to revisit the decision of installing smart meters in their area at earliest so that the poor residents could heave a sigh of relief. (KNO)



Kashmiri Muslims offer Zuhr Prayers at Dastgeer Sahib Shrine on 18th day of the Holy month of Ramazan. KO Photo Abid Bhat

Acid Attack Case

Bail Application Of Accused Juvenile Rejected

Agencies

Srinagar: Juvenile Justice Board (JJB) on Wednesday rejected the bail application of the accused juvenile involved in Srinagar acid attack case.

After hearing defense counsel and additional public prosecutor Zafar Iqbal Shaheen, the JJB Srinagar comprising Principal Magistrate Touseef Ahmad Magrey and two members Dr Asima Hassan and Dr Khair-ul-Nisa, observed that granting bail at this juncture would certainly defeat the ends of justice.

"Ends of Justice have been interpreted by courts in different ways. No universal formula can be laid down but justice to society as a whole has to be borne in mind while interpreting ends of justice," the JJB observed.

While referring to various Supreme Court judgements and provisions of law, the JJB said that gravity of the charge, manner of its perpetration, circumstances in which the offence is alleged to have been committed, its immediate

“The release at this juncture of CICL on bail will not serve the ends of justice. Rather, his placement at Observation Home, Harwan, Srinagar is in his best interest at this juncture as he has shown signs of reformation which shall continue for the time being

impact on society, besides its impact on the aggrieved family, are all matters to be taken into reckoning while judging a juvenile's bail plea.

It added that in the instant case alleged act of CICL wherein he accompanied the main accused to commit the alleged crime and post occurrence behavior of CICL, all point out to the fact that CICL needs reformation of highest degree so as to make him understand that the norms of society and laws of

land are to be adhered to.

"The release at this juncture of CICL on bail will not serve the ends of justice. Rather, his placement at Observation Home, Harwan, Srinagar is in his best interest at this juncture as he has shown signs of reformation which shall continue for the time being," the JJB said.

"Taking into the considerations the nature and gravity of allegations and overall circumstances, the Board is of the opinion that release at this stage of CICL on bail would certainly defeat the Ends of Justice. Accordingly, the instant bail application is dismissed," the JJB said.

Earlier, additional public prosecutor Zafar Iqbal Shaheen vehemently opposed the bail application, submitting that CICL has committed and actively aided the commission of horrendous act which shows depravity of mind and cannot be treated as an act which can be dubbed as a child's mistake during youth hood. (KNS)

Family Of Missing Teen Appeals Him To Return Home

Agencies

Srinagar: The family members of a missing teen from Baba Dam area of Srinagar have appealed to him to return home.

As per the family members, their son Natish Shakeel Ahmad Wani, aged 17 went missing from his home four days ago and since then there is no trace of him.

They said that Shakeel left home for Zuhr prayers at around 1 pm four days ago and since he did not return home.

In a video message, which is doing

rounds on different social media platforms, the family members could be seen urging the teenage boy to return to his home, who has gone missing for the last four days.

The family members, including his mother could be seen wailing and urging their missing son to return home.

"We don't have any enmity with anyone but we urge those if they have any information about our son or he is with them, please return him on humanitarian grounds or let us know his whereabouts," they said.

Office of the Principal Govt Polytechnic College Anantnag

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Website www.gpcanantnag.net

Admission Notice for Short-Term Courses

Applications on prescribed format are invited from eligible candidates for undergoing the following short term courses under Continuing Education Scheme.

S. No	Name of the Course	Duration	Minimum Qualification	Course Fee
1.	Basic Computer Course	100 working hours	10th & above	Rs. 2000/=
2.	Building Construction	100 working hours	10th & above	Rs. 2000/=
3.	AutoCAD (2D+3D)	100 working hours	10+2 / Diploma Engg. / Degree / undergoing Diploma / Degree	Rs. 4000/=

The students can obtain application forms from Continuing Education Cell of the Institution (during office hours) and the application forms will be received back duly filled along with attested copies of certificates and course fee in the shape of blank draft from (J&K bank only) pledged in favour of Principal, Govt. Polytechnic College, Larkipora, Anantnag upto 15th May 2022

DIPK-776/22

Principal Govt Polytechnic College,
Anantnag

NO GPA/POLY/CE/915-17
DATE:19/04/2022

COMPOSITE REGIONAL CENTRE For Skill Development, Rehabilitation & Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan)

Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment Government of India
Bemina Bye-Pass Srinagar, J&K-190018 /

Email / : dir-crcjk-depwd@gov.in, directorcrcjk20@gmail.com Phone / : 0194-2495039

Ref. No. CRC-Sgr/AdvT.N/22

Dated: 18 -04-2022

Sub: Walk in-interview notification

Composite Regional Centre (CRC) Bemina, Bye-pass Srinagar intends to engage the following contractual (constant) posts for academic purposes for a period of 11 months. In this regard walk-in-interview will be conducted as per the schedule of dates mentioned below through online and off-line mode. Subsequently eligible candidates having the requisite qualification / experience as mentioned below against each are hereby intimated to report this institution for Walk-in-interview along with all the original certificates / testimonials.

However, candidates can appear for interview through off-line and online mode as per their convenience. The eligible candidates have to work as per the terms and conditions of this institution.

S.No	Name of contractual post	No of posts	Requisite qualification / experience	Consolidated honorarium P.M (Rs)
01	Lecturer Physiotherapy (Consultant)	01	Masters in Physiotherapy with 02 years' experience in teaching / clinics	30,000/-
02	Demonstrator Physiotherapy (Consultant)	01	Masters / Bachelors in Physiotherapy with 03 years' experience in teaching / clinics	28,000/-
03	Lecturer Rehab Psychology (Consultant)	01	M.Phil Rehab / Clinical Psychology	30,000/-
04	Lecturer Special Education (Consultant)	02	Masters Degree in any discipline with not less than 5% of marks. M.Ed Special Education (ID) with 55% of marks and having valid CRR Number.	30,000/-
05	Tutor Special Education (Consultant)	01	M.Ed in Special Education (ID) / B.Ed Special Education (ID) with 03 years teaching experience and having valid CRR Number.	28,000/-
06	Lab Assistant	01	P.G Diploma in Rehab Psychology	28,000/-

Schedule date for Walk-in-Interview.

For posts mentioned above at S.No.01 & 02	17-05-2022
For posts mentioned above at S.No.03 & 06	12-05-2022
For posts mentioned above at S.No.04 & 05	09-05-2022

DIPK-NB-363/22

(Dr. Zafar Iqbal)
Director

DIAL-EMMA

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



AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311



RAILWAYS

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



HIGHWAY STATUS



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



**HIJRI
CALENDAR**
19 Ramazan
1443

PRAYERS

FAJR	4: 25
ZUHR	12:31
ASR	5:14
Magrib	7:10
ISHA	8: 36

This Day In History

- 43 BC - Battle of Mutina: Mark Antony is again defeated in battle by Aulus Hirtius, who is killed. Antony fails to capture Mutina and Decimus Brutus is murdered shortly after.
- 1453 - Turkish fleet sinks ships Golden Receiver in Constantinople
- 1521 - Battle at Villalar: Emperor Charles I beats Communards
- 1526 - Battle at Panipat: Central Asian conqueror Babur defeats Sultan Ibrahim Lodi, establishing the Mughal Empire in India.
- 1572 - France & England sign anti-Spanish military covenant
- 1649 - Maryland Toleration Act passed in the American colony, allowing freedom of worship for Christians but sentencing to death anyone who rejected the divinity of Jesus
- 1654 - England & Sweden sign trade agreement
- 1689 - William III & Mary Stuart proclaimed King & Queen of England
- 1739 - Spain & Naples-Austria sign peace accord
- 1796 - Napoleon and the French defeat the Piedmontese at Battle of Mondovì
- 1836 - Battle of San Jacinto, Texas wins independence from Mexico
- 1857 - Alexander Douglas patents the bustle
- 1898 - Spanish-American War: The U.S. Congress, on April 25, recognizes that a state of war exists between the United States and Spain as of this date.
- 1945 - Allied troops occupy German nuclear laboratory
- 1945 - He Shima Okinawa conquered in 5 days, 5,000 die
- 1954 - Gregori Malenkov becomes premier of USSR
- 1954 USAF flies French battalion to Vietnam
- 1960 - Brasilia becomes capital of Brazil
- 1963 - The Universal House of Justice of the Bahá'í Faith is elected for the first time.
- 1969 - The Ministry of Defence in London announces that British troops would be used in Northern Ireland to guard key public installations following a series of bombings
- 1972 - John Young & Charles Duke explores Moon (Apollo 16)
- 1972 - Orbiting Astronomical Observatory 4 (Copernicus) launched
- 1976 - Swine Flu vaccine, for non-epidemic, enters testing

From KO Archives

Pak, India Must Seize 'Historic Opportunity': Musharraf

MANILA - Pakistan and India must seize the "historic opportunity" for peace in the wake of the recent meeting of the two countries leaders, Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf said here today.

Addressing the Philippine Congress following his trip to New Delhi, Musharraf said that he was "encouraged by my interaction" with Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and other Indian leaders.

"Both sides realise the historic opportunity created by the improvement in bilateral

Relations must be seized to address the. Long standing Kashmir dispute squarely with determination, courage and flexibility," he said.

He said success in this area would "usher in a new era of durable peace, trust and confidence that would ensure a bright future for the region.

Musharraf, who is on a three-day state visit to this country remarked that East and Southeast Asia had left South Asia behind in economic growth, remarking that "our neighbourhood has remained disturbed due to the turmoil in Afghanistan and the Kashmir issue between India Pakistan.

The Pakistan President said with the improvements in Afghanistan and the warming of ties between India and Pakistan, the situation in the South Asian region should improve.

He expressed hope that Pakistan could use its strategic location as a crossroads between South Asia, Central Asia and West Asia to "promote economic cooperation within these regions through special arrangements and development of infrastructure. (AFP)

(Kashmir Observer, 21 April, 2005)

KASHMIR
OBSERVER

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K O V I E W

Renewed Covid surge

After a drastic dip in the Covid infections across the country, there has been a renewed surge in the cases. On Monday, there was a 90 percent spike in the new infections with most of these concentrated in Delhi, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh. Delhi, which was reporting around 200 cases last week, is currently reporting over 500 daily infections with a positivity rate of 5.33 percent. Similarly, the count in Haryana has increased by four times. In Uttar Pradesh, the active caseload has now crossed the 600-mark with Ghaziabad and Gautam Buddh Nagar on alert. Are we on the brink of a fourth wave? Not yet. Experts have said the spike is no cause for concern yet. According to IIT Kanpur professor Maninda Agarwal the current rise in Delhi-NCR and adjoining districts appears to be due to the lifting of Covid curbs. He added that the natural immunity against Covid-19 among the people is now above 90 percent, which can pre-empt the spread of new virus variants.

At the same time, it won't be prudent to rule out the fourth wave and go about our lives without following Standard Operating Procedures or take lightly the advent of new highly transmissible virus strains. In January-February, the third Covid wave triggered by Omicron caught on despite a predominant majority of the country having been vaccinated. However, the vaccination did substantially reduce the hospitalizations and deaths. It remains to be seen what level of transmissibility and the virulence the new variants possess.

As things stand, despite the sudden spike in the cases, the number is too low to be taken seriously yet. So, coming days will be crucial as to the trend of infections. Any significant rise in the cases will require government intervention just as China has done in Shanghai. The world's biggest city has been under a lockdown for some time. However, India is unlikely to go that far as unlike Beijing, New Delhi doesn't follow zer-Covid policy.

It is thus premature to rule out more Covid waves and we have to be prepared for them. The world has been through several successive waves of the pandemic which have infected millions and claimed hundreds of thousands of lives. With the abating of the Omicron wave which broke out early this year, there was a temporary sense of relief across the world. The economies started re-opening in most parts of the world. But fresh surges in some countries and now in India also should be a warning that the virus is here to stay for some more time. In fact, it has already become endemic now.

OTHER OPINION

Another Virus

Truth, it is said, is the first casualty of war. In India, it is also the first victim of public health crises like the Covid-19 pandemic. The government of Prime Minister Narendra Modi is locked in a tussle with the World Health Organization over a calculation by the agency that at least four million Indians have died from the virus, eight times the official death toll of 522,000. Mr Modi's government has attempted to stall the release of the damning figure, citing opposition to the methodology used in computing deaths. India is not alone in facing allegations of undercounting deaths, but no other nation comes close in terms of the scale of alleged underreporting, and no other government is known to have tried to actively suppress the WHO statistics. Yet, sadly, none of this is any longer a surprise. While scientists and statisticians can quibble over the methodology used by the United Nations health agency, it is no secret that in India, the federal government and several state administrations have been opaque in their handling of the pandemic and its death toll.

At the best of times, data collection in India is a flawed exercise. Almost all deaths from the virus have been recorded at hospitals. But more than half of all deaths in India take place at home; so many Covid-19 fatalities would have been missed. There have also been deliberate, brazen attempts to cover up the scale of the crisis. In Delhi, the number of cremations that have followed Covid-19 protocols has far exceeded the official death figure. In Gujarat, the state government has approved compensation to families of 87,000 people who died of Covid-19 — but the state's official death toll stands at just over 10,000. And even before the current kerfuffle over the WHO calculation, the Central government has repeatedly dismissed estimates and calculations by scientists, published in top, peer-reviewed journals, showing high death counts. This is a shortsighted and dangerous approach. As Kerala has shown, transparency can help policymakers craft effective interventions. The southern state has the highest number of recorded Covid-19 cases after Maharashtra, even though surveys by the Indian Council of Medical Research have found the virus less prevalent there than in most parts of the country suggesting better tracking of infections. India needs similar transparency nationally. But for that, the government must recognize that it cannot truly beat the virus by burying the truth.

Telegraph India

Economy Central

J&K's Unemployment Endemic



Ejaz Ayoub

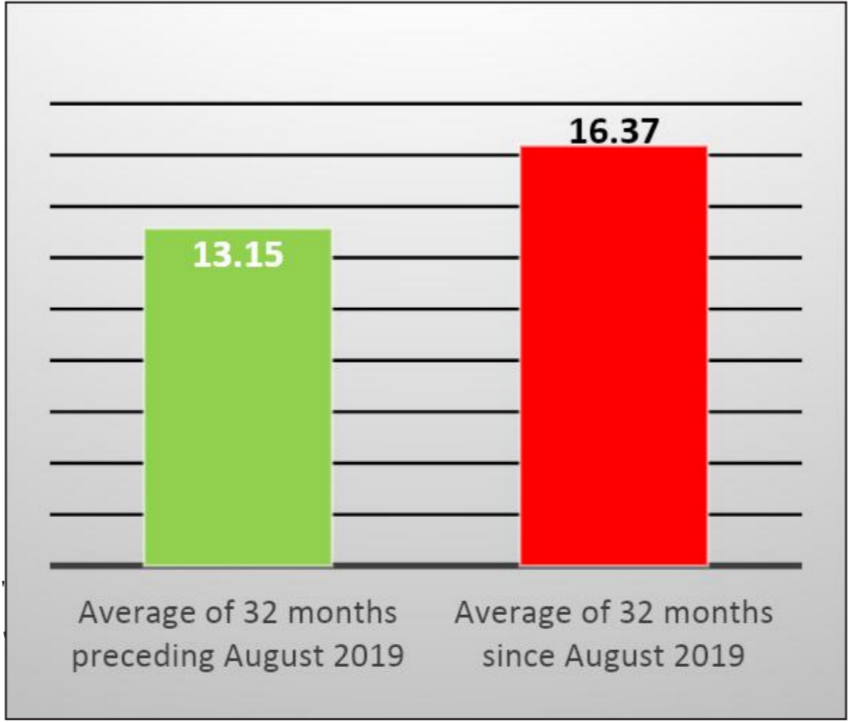
“There is a famous quote by William Shakespeare, “You take my life when you take the means whereby I live.” Unemployment is a social issue which is rapidly branching out to ugly socio-economic problems like poverty, drug abuse, suicides, social unrest, mental health and crime



If there is one example in modern history as to how devastating economies result in widespread human sufferings, it's the Great Economic Depression of the 1930's. It began in the United States and spilled over to rest of the world for the good part of that decade. 24 percent unemployment recorded in the US during the depths of the Great Depression in 1930's is still considered as the worse that could happen when economic policies collapse at a lethal pace. J&K is currently standing at 25% as per Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE). That's roughly over 1.1 million jobless people. Another credible Labor survey report which substantiates the chronic unemployment scenario in the region was published by Union Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation for April-June 2021 period. J&K registered a staggering unemployment ratio of 46.3 percent (15-29 age group urban). One can only wonder, if these dystopian unemployment figures qualify declaring J&K's economy under a great depression. The situation as per data appears beyond alarming.

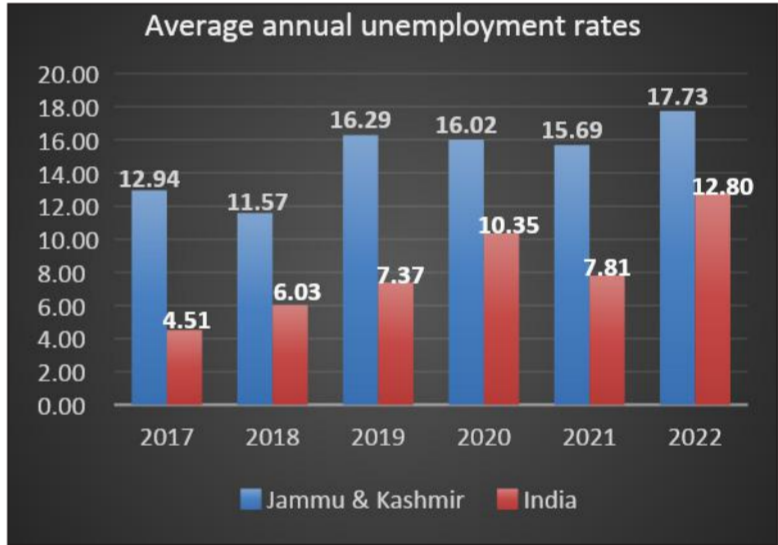
How did we reach here?

The time series data on unemployment published by CMIE with monthly frequency throws some obvious but very alarming patterns. A superficial look at the data shows that the average unemployment rate after August 2019 political lockdown till March 2022 for a region's workforce. The series of lockdowns on account of Covid19 and August19 gave a lethal shock to the demand, which in turn resulted in massive layoffs. Job losses further contracted the average household income creating a downward spiral in spending and consumer demand. The spill-over effect engulfed other sectors resulting in a serious contraction of the region's economy. Manufacturing and transport sectors which collectively create around 5 lakh jobs also suffered massively on account of demand slump and supply chain bottlenecks. Besides lockdowns, a series of myopic policies like introduction of GeM portal by the Govt. exposed the local industries to unaffordable risks leaving a majority of them out of business. To add insult to the injury, global slowdown on account of Covid19 and geopolitics dented the very essential conduits of foreign exchange from exports and foreign remittances. This stressed a huge workforce of over 3 lakh artisans. Construction and Govt. sector are the only two sectors which remained resilient and supported the local economy during these economically testing times.



No doubt the frequent lockdowns on account of the pandemic did extend the pain for an extended period, however, the downfall in job market started much before Covid started engulfing the economy. As can be seen from the average annual unemployment numbers, the biggest year-on-year jump in

unemployment was witnessed in 2019 from 11.57 percent to 16.29 percent. Since then, there has been no respite in the region's job scenario. The first three months of the calendar year 2022 have opened on a very steep trajectory with average unemployment touching 17.73 percent already.



One can only wonder, if these dystopian unemployment figures qualify declaring J&K's economy under a great depression. The situation as per data appears beyond alarming

After agriculture, the biggest employment provider in J&K is the trading sector with roughly 10 lakh people deriving their livelihood from this systemically significant sector. This is approximately a quarter of the region's workforce. The series of lockdowns on account of Covid19 and August19 gave a lethal shock to the demand, which in turn resulted in massive layoffs. Job losses further contracted the average household income creating a downward spiral in spending and consumer demand. The spill-over effect engulfed other sectors resulting in a serious contraction of the region's economy. Manufacturing and transport sectors which collectively create around 5 lakh jobs also suffered massively on account of demand slump and supply chain bottlenecks. Besides lockdowns, a series of myopic policies like introduction of GeM portal by the Govt. exposed the local industries to unaffordable risks leaving a majority of them out of business. To add insult to the injury, global slowdown on account of Covid19 and geopolitics dented the very essential conduits of foreign exchange from exports and foreign remittances. This stressed a huge workforce of over 3 lakh artisans. Construction and Govt. sector are the only two sectors which remained resilient and supported the local economy during these economically testing times.

What has been the policy response so far?

With a dead tired consumption, exports, and private investment scenario, the Govt. as the only response has been amping up its public spending through annual budgetary provisions. So far, we have seen plenty of intentions and announcements, however, the efficiency of delivery has been a very disappointing experience. In addition to this, the Govt. has tried

to push banks in extending credit in order to catalyze the recovery, however, the stressed balance-sheets of the banks find it very difficult in assuming more credit risk. The annual credit growth in J&K when compared to previous financial years has been quite dismal, which speaks volumes about

the reluctance of Banking industry in burning its fingers further in this economically turbulent environment. The focus is instead on recoveries which is the last thing the already starving borrowers expected right now.

In addition to public spending and bank credit, the Govt. has been trying to woo foreign investors very aggressively. Although a series of announcements regarding investments secured from UAE based business houses made it to the headlines, however, the impact of these significant economic goodies may be expected in medium and long term. Instead, the problems of unemployment are immediate, urgent and unaffordable and therefore require a short-term, result oriented and an inclusive response.

There is a famous quote by William Shakespeare, “You take my life when you take the means whereby I live.” Unemployment is a social issue which is rapidly branching out to ugly socio-economic problems like poverty, drug abuse, suicides, social unrest, mental health and crime. It is therefore essential and extremely urgent that a multipronged short-, medium- and long-term policy is adopted for addressing this unaffordable problem. We hope systemic forces like peace and pandemic too align with the policies and facilitate the path to recovery, so that J&K comes out of this grim economic situation swiftly.

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

Ejaz Ayoub has been working in the BFSI industry in the field of Financial Risk Management, Strategy and Foreign Exchange. He can be reached at: ejaz.ayoub@gmail.com

This Cannot Be My Kashmir

Tubah Shah

With the heavenly landscape, the music of gushing rivers, shining cascades and magnificent lakes; the fragrance of tulips and stunning Chinar trees; the beauty of snow-clad mountains, verdant pastures and meadows; the enchanting Bungus valley and the valleys of Gurez, Gulmarg and Pahalgam; the serenity of Mughal Gardens located on the foothills of the Zabarwan hills, Kashmir bewitches everyone. The surreal beauty of the Kashmir valley defies description, yet many poets, authors and philosophers have tried to capture the splendour of this place in words. The resplendent beauty of Kashmir lends meaning to Amir Khusro's famous Persian verse, "Agar Firdaus bar roo-e-zameen ast/ Hameen ast-o hameen ast-o hameen ast" (If there's Paradise on earth, It's this, it's this, it's this.)The ethereal beauty that nature has bestowed Kashmir with makes it rightfully be called the 'Paradise on Earth'. Besides, it is equally widely known for being called the 'Pir Vaer,' meaning the alcove of Sufis and saints, which has a distinctive aura of mystical aroma that touches the hearts of all and sundry. There is much more to it that adds to

the elegance of this pulchritudinous place and makes it even more pleasurable and satisfying, i.e., the inhabitants of this pristine land who are considered beautiful inside out. Kashmir proudly boasts of its people being kind, warm, hospitable, helpful, affable, loving and always smiling despite being engulfed by the turmoil through and through. Lately, I have started to feel otherwise, and so would anyone pondering upon the circumstances around us, which are becoming more daunting than before. My hands tremble to write something that is unbecoming of a 'Kashmiri'- an epitome of humanity. Some very recent gut-wrenching incidents that took place in the main city are enough to make any native say, 'This cannot be my Kashmir,' given the compassionate nature of the populace here. It is hard to believe that the benign and benevolent hearts are turning to mephistophelian and violent heads. In the wee hours, the news of two siblings murdering their father flashed across my mobile screen and jolted me out of my slumber. I stood there utterly thunderstruck, rubbing my eyes to recheck if I read it right, and dropped my phone in shock, wishing not to have come across this



gruesome news. Least would have the victim (father) ever thought that the butchers are born in his own bosom. A few days later, in yet another brutal incident, a fruit vendor stabbed a customer after an altercation over the quality of watermelons he was selling. Both the incidents had one thing in common, as could be judged from the nature of the crimes- monetary dispute. It still sounds unbelievable to me that the people of my Kashmir

can stoop to such low levels murdering their dear ones or associates just for a few bucks. Though such horrendous incidents have happened in the past but the rate of the crime spree has been increasing for quite some time now, and I can't muster the courage to write about it, even accept this as truth. How would I write about my Pir Vaer getting transformed into an abode of criminals? About my people who are losing their patience

and humanity in the pursuit of material wealth? About my people who are setting their feet on the wrong track while ignoring the teachings of our beloved Prophet (Peace be Upon Him)? About my people who are becoming walking demons under the garb of angelic faces? No! I cannot because this is not what I have known and seen about my homeland and its people. This cannot be the Kashmir of Lalla Ded, Nund Reshi and Habba

Khatoon. This cannot be the Kashmir that our ancestors visualized and which Agha Shahid Ali and Rasool Mir weaved in their verses. The saying that it is never too late stands true; however, we need to gear up to make a change for the better as the power to change the world lies within us. We are all humans, but lest we forget that the greatness lies in being humane. It's high time to pay heed to our very own great Kashmiri poet, Mahjoor, who said, "Walo haa baagvaano navbaharuk shaan paida kar/ Pholan gul gath karan bulbul tithe saamaan paida kar" (Come O Gardener! Let us create the magnificence of a new spring/ when flowers will blossom and bulbul will dance, create that consciousness). We are the gardeners of our land, and it solely becomes our responsibility to nurture it and be the torchbearers of love, peace, harmony and brotherhood. It becomes our duty to work together to revive and retain the sheen and glory of this land and its people that make it a 'Paradise' on earth rather than becoming the contributors to making it a living hell. The author can be reached at tubahshah07@gmail.com

Anxiety and Allah



I was so exhausted and worn out with negative thoughts racing through my mind. In an attempt to get my worries and fears under control, I decided to seek help for all the burdens that were weighing me down: I made the decision to reconnect with Allah wholeheartedly

Amina G

We encourage you to reach out to mental health services for further guidance and sign post your family and friends. Keep in touch with your community for support, talk to family and friends and remember there is no shame in seeking help for your mental health. You can also check out our list of Muslim mental health services and organisations you can contact. May Allah grant you ease. Ameen There is no doubt that we all experience some degree of stress and pressure at some point in our lives, if not on a daily basis. Recent studies have shown that the number of those experiencing stress and being diagnosed with anxiety has risen in recent year, and those figures have increased dramatically since the onset of the pandemic. The very start of the pandemic was unequivocally the most challenging for me. Like a lot of people around the globe, I suddenly found myself with a full household, surrounded with people and chaos, and having to homeschool my children, something which I had never done before. This increased my levels of anxiety to a great degree. I was overwhelmed with to-do lists. I had to figure out how to do unfamiliar skills, and I struggled to keep up with it all. My perception as a parent became very negative; I felt like I was a bad mother and I was failing in every way. I couldn't and wouldn't stop comparing myself to other mums. It seemed like every

parent and generally everyone was coping better than me. Most days, I had to push myself and muster the strength to go out with the kids for a walk. I was so exhausted and worn out with negative thoughts racing through my mind. In an attempt to get my worries and fears under control, I decided to seek help for all the burdens that were weighing me down: I made the decision to reconnect with Allah wholeheartedly. As Allah mentions in the Qur'an: Indeed God will not change the condition of a people until they change what is in themselves. (Qur'an 13:1) I had to be willing to and do my best to make positive changes within myself even if small. The above verse confirms that Allah will always make a way for us if we can make changes within ourselves. So below, I have compiled a list of things that have helped me to deal with my anxiety and daily pressures of life that I was experiencing: 1. HAVE A GOOD OPINION OF ALLAH The first step I took on this journey that really helped me to manage my anxiety was having firm faith that Allah wants only what is best for us. He doesn't want us to experience hardship, but ease. Therefore he wants us to turn to Him in every situation even when the feeling of hopelessness arises. The Prophet ﷺ reported a hadith which says: Allah says, "I am as My servant thinks I am. I am with him when he makes mention of Me. If he makes mention of Me to himself, I make

mention of him to Myself; and if he makes mention of Me in an assembly, I make mention of him in an assembly better than it. And if he draws near to Me an arm's length, I draw near to him a cubit, and if he draws near to Me a fathom, I draw near to him a fathom. And if he comes to Me walking, I go to him at speed." That is to say, if we have a positive attitude towards our faith and our perception of Allah, our hope in Him increases. Through this, I began to notice the good things in my life. 2. HASTEN TO WORSHIP, HASTEN TO SUCCESS We hear this in the daily adhan five times a day. Five times a day, we are reminded that success is not anywhere else except in our daily prayers. Once I really internalised this, I decided that if performing all my obligatory prayers was all that I had accomplished at the end of the day then I would be proud of myself because it is in these prayers which is the beginning of our main purpose for existence. In his book 'Allah Loves', Sheikh Omar Suleiman also states that Allah loves that we prioritise our prayers. He loves that we show Him we are longing for Him and are seeking comfort in our prayers, and this is a message that is evident throughout the Qur'an and Sunnah: Abu Huraira reported that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said, "The first action for which a servant of Allah will be held accountable on the Day of Resurrection will be his prayers. If they are in order, he will have prospered and succeeded."

I did not create mankind and jinn except to worship me. (Qur'an 51:56) Abdullah Ibn Mas'ud asked the Prophet, "What is the most beloved action to Allah?", the Prophet answered, "Prayer on time." 3. PRACTISE REMEMBRANCE OF ALLAH Allah has promised us peace when we consistently remember Him. Verily in the remembrance of Allah do hearts find peace. (Qur'an 13:28) A good way that helps me to do this is by doing dhikr, remembrance of Allah. I observe dhikr at any time of the day even whilst doing house chores or whilst having a cuppa. I do this through the fingers of the hand or by using prayer beads to utter praises or glorifications of Allah that is saying SubhanAllah thirty three times, Alhamdulillah thirty three times, Allahu Akbar thirty three times, la ilaaha illa Allahu thirty three times. Other ways I use to remember Allah is by making dua or by learning or reciting His beautiful names. 4. SEEK HIS FORGIVENESS I found that seeking Allah's forgiveness consistently, on a daily basis, was providing me great relief and it put me in a more peaceful place. The Prophet ﷺ used to do Istighfar (saying Astaghfirullah) at least one hundred times a day. A supplication which carries so many benefits and virtues, one of which is to relieve us of fears or worries. It also keeps us

from committing sins or wrongdoing others since we are more focused on making ourselves better. Ibn Abbas reported: The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said, "Whoever increases his prayers for forgiveness, Allah will grant him relief from every worry, a way out from every hardship, and provide for him in ways he does not expect." 5. WHEN YOU SEEK REFUGE IN HIM, LET EVERYTHING ELSE GO I have recently learnt that in asking Allah for His protection over our worries and fears, we hand ourselves completely over to Him. We may still experience the same worries and fears but they become less overwhelming the more we stay connected to Allah subhana wa ta'ala. So, I realised that when I seek His refuge, I should completely let go of doubt, let it prevail because Allah will take care of it as He has promised us. Abu Sa'id al-Khudri reported: The Messenger of Allah ﷺ entered the mosque one day while a man from the Ansar named Abu Umamah was there. The Prophet said, "O Abu Umamah, what is the matter that I see you sitting in the mosque while it is not time for prayer?" He said, "O Messenger of Allah, I am compelled by anxiety and debts." The Prophet said, "Shall I not teach you a word to say by which Allah Almighty will relieve your worry and complete your debt?" He said, "Of course, O Messenger of Allah." The Prophet said, "Say in the morning and evening: O Allah, I

seek refuge in you from worry and sadness. I seek refuge in you from weakness and laziness. I seek refuge in you from cowardice and miserliness. And I seek refuge in you from being overwhelmed by debt and the tyranny of men." 6. ALLOW the Qur'an to be your solace On top of the rewards we attain for reciting it, the Qur'an itself is a source of guidance and truth. By reading it and immersing ourselves in its teachings, we can find the answers we seek while we read and reflect on the Qur'an. It is after all, one of the methods and means by which Allah Subhana wa ta'ala converses with us. When it is used regularly if not daily, the Qur'an is a source of comfort and healing. Allah says: A book We sent down to you (Muhammad) so that you may bring forth mankind from darkness into the light. (Qur'an 14:1) Therefore, it is fitting that the Qur'an is the place to turn to for guidance and solace. It is the light we seek in the darkness of life. 7. Practise gratitude There are plenty of studies that show the general benefits of practicing gratitude. But our faith has also always encouraged us to be thankful to Allah for all that he has given us. There is always joy to be found in all circumstances. I found that focusing on even the littlest things allowed me to look on the brighter side of life, and through this gratitude, more blessings to be grateful for were laid out on my path by Allah. If you are grateful, I will give you

more. (Qur'an 14:7) 8. Believe that with Allah you can Allah has told us that He is closer to us than our jugular vein. He fashioned us in the best form. Furthermore, He has mentioned several times in the Qur'an to ask from Him and that He does not want us to experience hardship. Therefore I decided to accept that I was not being arrogant or selfish by putting myself first to perform actions that Allah loves or to expect Allah to help me even if it is to make things easy for me. Believing without a doubt that Allah is forgiving and merciful and acting in the right way with a positive mindset completely changed my outlook on life. Allah truly wants us to turn to Him for every situation in our lives especially in the most challenging of times and I felt that by putting Allah first, reaching out to Him with hope and expecting the best from Him, I was becoming better at managing my anxiety. • Allah loves those who are grateful • Prioritising Salat • In constant remembrance of Him • Making dhikr • Their hearts come to be peaceful • Making du'a • Their lives purposeful • Reciting Qur'an • Allah has said • "Those are the successful." I pray that May Allah make it easy for all those who are going through hardships. Ameen – Amaliah

SC halts anti-encroachment drive in riots-hit Jahangirpuri on Jamiat's plea

Agenceis

New Delhi: In a significant development, the Supreme Court on Wednesday stalled the anti-encroachment drive by authorities in the violence-hit Jahangirpuri area of the national capital after taking note of a plea of Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind that buildings of Muslim riots accused are being razed.

A bench headed by Chief Justice N V Ramana, which ordered maintaining of status quo concerning the demolition of buildings in the forenoon, intervened again during the day after it was apprised that the authorities were not stopping on the ground that no official communication has been received by them.

Taking note of the submissions of senior advocate Dushyant Dave, appearing for the Muslim body, the bench, also comprising Justices Krishna Murari and Hima Kohli, directed the apex court Secretary-General to convey its morning order to stop demolition to the NDMC (North Delhi Municipal Corporation) mayor, commissioner and the Delhi police commissioner immediately.

I am sorry to mention it again...In the morning, I had mentioned the matter. Despite communicating the (stay) order, they (authorities) are not stopping the demolition. They



are saying that they have not officially received any communication. I request to ask the secretary-general to communicate the order to the police commissioner and the mayor and the commissioner of the North Delhi Municipal Corporation (NDMC), Dave said.

It will be too late otherwise, the senior lawyer said urging urgent remedial action on the part of the top court.

Ok. Communicate it through the secretary-general (of the apex court) immediately, the CJI said.

The senior advocate said that the order of the apex court was

widely reported by the media in the morning and still the authorities were not acting as per it.

I don't understand. We are in a rule of law society... I am feeling sad as it will send a terribly wrong message, Dave said.

In the forenoon, Dave mentioned the petition of Jamiat against the special joint encroachment removal action of the civic bodies including the NDMC and the PWD and said a completely unauthorised and unconstitutional demolition has been ordered.

He alleged that the demolition, which was to start at 2 pm

on Wednesday, has begun at 9 am and no mandatory notice, granting time for response, for demolition has been served on the alleged violators.

Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, also appearing for the Muslim body, mentioned another petition in which a direction to the Centre and some states including Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh has been sought asking them not to take precipitate actions like razing buildings in criminal proceedings against riots accused.

Upon being mentioned by Mr. Dushyant Dave, We direct the Registry to list the matter

tomorrow (Thursday) that is on April 21 along with (other petition)... before an appropriate bench. Status quo, as exists today, shall be maintained, until further orders, the bench ordered.

Jahangirpuri in north Delhi had witnessed violent clashes, including stone-pelting, arson, and firing, between two communities during a Hanuman Jayanti procession on Saturday. Eight police personnel and a local resident had sustained injuries.

Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind, in its separate plea, has sought a direction to the Centre and the states, where buildings are being razed in criminal proceedings, that such an action be not taken.

This was filed in the wake of recent actions taken by authorities in Madhya Pradesh to use bulldozers to raze properties of those accused of rioting during the Ram Navami celebrations.

The petition said the action like razing the house in a criminal proceeding as a punishment is unknown to criminal law.

Petitioners also seek a declaration that residential accommodations or any commercial property cannot be demolished as a punitive measure also pray that police personnel to be provided specialised training in handling communal riots and situations where populations become restive, it said.

Pak Values Its Long-Standing Relationship With US: PM Sharif Tells US Congresswoman Omar

Agenceis

Islamabad: Pakistan valued its long-standing relationship with the US and wanted to further deepen bilateral cooperation based on mutual respect, trust, and equality, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said on Wednesday.

Sharif's remarks came amidst a new low in US-Pakistan ties after ousted prime minister Imran Khan accused Washington of toppling his government.

During a meeting with visiting US Congresswoman Ilhan Abdullah Omar here, Sharif, who became prime minister last week after Khan was ousted through a no-confidence vote in Parliament, highlighted that constructive engagement between the two countries could help promote peace, security, and development in the region.

He hoped that Omar's first-ever visit to Pakistan would lead to deepening people-to-people ties and strengthen exchanges between the Parliament of Pakistan and the US Congress, Geo News reported on Sharif's first meeting with a member of US President Joe Biden's Democratic Party.

Sharif underscored that Pakistan valued its long-standing relationship with the United States and wanted to further deepen bilateral cooperation based on mutual respect, trust, and equality, it said.

During the meeting with the 39-year-old lawmaker, matters of mutual interest including

Pakistan-US bilateral relations as well as regional situations were discussed.

Maintaining that the US was Pakistan's largest trading partner, Sharif emphasised the need to further enhance cooperation between the two countries, especially in the trade and investment fields.

Sharif also raised the Kashmir issue with Omar, known for her anti-India stance, and stressed the importance of peaceful resolution of the Jammu and Kashmir issue, enabling the region to realise its economic potential and promote social progress, the report said.

He emphasised that a peaceful and stable South Asian region can focus on its growth and development. He added that concerted efforts, at the global level, were needed to deal with the scourge of Islamophobia, the report said. Omar also called on Pakistan President Arif Alvi.

Alvi said that Pakistan values its longstanding relationship with the US and expressed the hope that constructive engagements between the two countries would promote peace and development in the region.

He emphasised the need for further improving bilateral relations in various fields for the mutual benefit of the two countries. Omar, a Muslim-American, who represents Minnesota in the US House of Representatives, also met former prime minister Khan, who is also the Chairman of the Pakistan Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party.

Masks To Be Mandatory Again In Delhi; Rs 500 Fine For Violators; Schools To Remain Open

AGENCEIS

New Delhi: In view of a spike in coronavirus cases in the national capital, the Delhi government on Wednesday decided to make the wearing of masks mandatory again in public places and impose a fine of Rs 500 in case of a violation.

The decision was taken at a meeting of the Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA), which also decided not to shut schools and come up with separate Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) in consultation with experts for them.

Lt Governor Anil Bajjal in a series of tweets shared details of the DDMA meeting and said, "it was decided to make the wearing of masks mandatory in public places."

The government is expected to issue an official order regarding the mandatory use of masks soon. Fine on not wearing a mask was lifted by the Delhi government on April 2 after the decline in COVID cases in the city.

The DDMA meeting emphasised strict enforcement of the SOPs for schools by the school management concerned.

"In the larger interest of



students, in case of non-compliance or violation of SOPs, a penalty as deemed appropriate should be imposed for creating a

deterrent effect," Bajjal tweeted.

Officials said authorities have been asked to keep a close watch on social gatherings and ramp

up testing in the national capital.

They said Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal is closely monitoring the situation and instructions have been issued to officials to ensure the implementation of steps to check the spread of the virus and preparations for the treatment of COVID patients.

In the DDMA meeting, emphasis was also laid on early vaccination of eligible groups as it will help keep in check the impact of the pandemic, officials said.

Several participants asserted that there was no need to panic since the number of hospitalisations was low despite a rise in

COVID cases, they said. It was highlighted that the trends of hospitalisation needed to be closely monitored for the next fortnight as well as conducting genome sequencing of all positive samples, put through the RTPCR test.

It was also decided to increase the number of tests being done with the focus on people with symptoms, they said.

The DDMA meeting, chaired by Bajjal, was also attended by Kejriwal, Deputy CM Manish Sisodia, and other top officials and experts. The LG advised all the agencies to remain vigilant and work in coordination to

tackle the situation as it emerges.

According to official figures, there are 9,735 beds for COVID patients in Delhi hospitals and just 80 (0.82 per cent) of them were occupied.

The health department said 632 fresh cases were reported on Tuesday and the positivity rate was 4.42 per cent.

The number of daily COVID-19 cases in Delhi had touched the record high of 28,867 on January 13 this year during the third wave of the pandemic. The positivity rate had soared to 30.6 per cent on January 14, the highest during the third wave.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

High Alert In Jammu

the police authorities in the Jammu region especially in the Kathua, Samba, Poonch and Rajouri belt have already taken a thorough review of the security situation and called for measures that would strengthen the turbulent border.

"Security forces have started to carry out surprise searches in several districts especially in Samba district to ensure security for the public rally of Prime Minister Modi," a police official told Kashmir Observer

The police sources further said that anti-sabotage checking, CCTV surveillance, snipers atop high rise buildings, surprise nakas, makeshift drop gates and sniffer dogs will also be put in place to thwart any militant attempt to disrupt the smooth conduct of PM's first visit to J&K since August 5th, 2019.

"All the high rise buildings around the main venue will be used by sharpshooters of J&K Police and CRPF." A police official said.

Pertinently, J&K Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha had earlier chaired a crucial security review meeting with chiefs of the IB, RAW, and NIA as part of the preparation for the PM's visit.

Ahead of the PM's visit, security forces have also sounded an alert of possible militant movement across the borders. As per sources, the alert has been sounded in wake of the high possibility of a militant movement across the border.

In addition, the official noted, close vigil is being maintained all along the International Border (IB) from Pathankot to Jammu. "Border Security Force (BSF) troops guarding the IB have already been put on high alert. Security forces have also started frisking commuters. We're already in the process of setting up static and mobile checking points across Jammu." The official noted

Besides these steps, Drones fitted with cameras will also be used to provide aerial surveillance during searches. "A team from the Prime Minister's Special Protection Group (SPG) will arrive probably two days before the PM's scheduled arrival and will take over all the venues where PM Modi is scheduled to visit." The police official said.

Along With these steps, the government forces will also erect extra checkpoints and install mobile bullet proof

bunkers to intensify frisking of commuters and pedestrians.

Notably, the security agencies have also decided to step up vigil around vital installations in Kashmir and conduct random frisking of vehicles especially those leaving the valley through National Highway.

"There will be a slight beef up in the security situation in Kashmir and a tight vigil will be put in place across the valley until PM's visit concludes." The police official told Kashmir Observer.

Amarnath Yatra

as every day, one to five companies arrive in Kashmir," they said, adding that remaining companies will be from BSF, ITBP, Sahastra Seema Bal (SSB) and CISF.

From BSF, 80 odd companies are expected to reach Srinagar by May end while there will be 30 to 40 companies each from ITB and SSB besides a good number of personnel from CISF. This is in addition to the help to be extended by the army in Kashmir for the smooth conduct of annual pilgrimage.

A CRPF company comprises 100 to 135 men and is commanded by a commanding officer. This year, the J&K government is expecting a record number of pilgrim arrivals—a historic pilgrimage.

An official said that primary focus will remain on highways—Srinagar-Jammu and Srinagar-Ganderbal to ensure smooth flow of vehicles ferrying pilgrims.

"The pilgrim vehicles will be fitted with a RFID chips that will remain under the radars connected with respective control rooms. No vehicle carrying pilgrims will be allowed to cross a particular point after a cut-off timing," a senior official, privy to the security plan for Amarnath pilgrimage revealed.

"At the registration counters, every devotee will be provided with a wristband with a micro-chip connected with the satellite towers installed at various locations. The movement of both, devotees as well as vehicles ferrying them, will remain under constant watch at the respective control rooms with the help of satellite, GPRS, micro-chips and RFID chips."

He said it was for the first time that the five-tier security cover will remain in place for the pilgrimage.

"All the 300 additional companies

of security forces will be deployed for the peaceful conduct of pilgrimage this year," he said.

Explaining the five-tier security plan, he said deployment will remain on highways, sensitive areas in districts, Quick Reaction Teams (of police and CRPF), Mobile Vehicle Check Posts (MVCPs), and technical monitoring.

Besides, he said 200 CCTV vehicles have been installed at the base camps and vulnerable slots identified by the security agencies that include "some spots on highways."

A security official said that extra measures have been taken to prevent any untoward incident during the 43-day long pilgrimage period starting June 30. "More focus will remain on highways and sensitive areas which have been taken care of," he said.

A source in the Shri Amarnath Shrine Board (SASB), the managing body for the Amarnath Yatra, said that at least 400 CCTVs have been installed at vulnerable points and also at the both base camps—Chandanwari in Pahalgam area of Anantnag district and also at Baltal in Ganderbal district.

"Pilgrims will be provided with wrist bands fitted with micro-chips at the registration counters to ensure the monitoring of their movement. Similarly, the pilgrim vehicles will also be fitted with chips to keep a close track on them," he said, adding that all the measures will be put in place to ensure every single pilgrim performs the pilgrimage in a smooth manner and have the glimpse of Shiv Lingam at the cave shrine of Amarnath—(KNO)

Govt Employees

Kashmir Dot Com, adding "the arrears on account of additional instalments of DA with effect from January, 2022 shall be paid in cash in the month of April this year."

The payment on account of DA involving fractions of 50 paisa and above may be rounded to the next high rupee and the fractions of less than 50 paisa shall be ignored, it added.

Mysterious Blast

in Kotranka late Tuesday night. A husband-wife duo sustained injuries and was hospitalised, police said in a statement, adding that both of them are out of danger. The police said the area was immediately cordoned off and a search operation is in progress.

The investigation is on to ascertain the cause of the explosion, they added. (PTI)

Six AGMUT

India, Rakesh Kumar reads. According to the order, Devansh Yadav, Ayushi Sudan and Minga Sherpa, all three IAS officers of AGMUT cadre, have been transferred to J&K from Arunachal Pradesh while Rashmi Singh has been transferred from New Delhi.

Besides them, two IPS officers Umesh Kumar and Sanjeev Kumar Yadav have been transferred to J&K from Delhi.

J&K Govt To CEOs

B K Singh in an order has said that these officials shall join at their respective place of posting.

"In the interest of Administration, 18 teaching and four non-teaching staff members who are still continuing at the Directorate of School Education, Kashmir, shall be deemed to have been relieved with immediate effect," Singh said.

He further directed them to join at their respective places of posting prior to their attachment in the Directorate—(KNO)

Al-Badr Member

in Pulwama (Kashmir); grenade attack on Central Reserve Police Force personnel on November 18, 2020 in Pulwama; and motivating youths to join militant ranks of Al Badr.

Born in 1999 and resident of Kharbatpora in Ratnipora under Pulwama district, Dar is one of the active associate members of Al Badr.

"The Central government believes that Arjumand Gulzar Dar alias Hamza Burhan is involved in terrorism and he is notified as a terrorist under the said Act, now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by clause (a) of sub-section (1) of section 35 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967, the Central Government declares him as terrorist," the Gazette notification reads further.

On April 8, the government had designated Hafiz Talha Saeed, a key leader of the LeT and the son of 26/11 Mumbai attacks mastermind Hafiz Saeed, as a terrorist. Three days later, on April 11, Pakistani national Mohiuddin Aurangzeb Alamgir, who was involved in an attack on a CRPF bus in Jammu and Kashmir's Pulwama in 2019, was

designated a terrorist.

On April 12, Ali Kashif Jan, the Pakistani handler of the militants involved in the 2016 attack on the Pathankot airbase, was designated as a terrorist by the Centre.

On April 13, Mushtaq Ahmed Zargar, who was involved in a series of attacks in Jammu and Kashmir and was one of the militants released by India in exchange for hostages in the hijacking of Indian Airlines flight IC-814 in 1999, was declared as a designated terrorist. On April 18, Ashiq Ahmed Nengroo, a commander of banned outfit Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM), was designated as a terrorist.

The LeT has been responsible for a series of deadly attacks in India, mostly in Jammu and Kashmir, in which scores of civilians and security personnel have been killed over the years.

LeT founder Hafiz Saeed and the group's "operational commander", Zakiur Rehman Lakhvi, besides JeM founder Maulana Masood Azhar, who was also released by the government in exchange for the passengers of Indian Airlines flight IC-814 from Afghanistan's Kandahar, are some of the most wanted terrorists in India.

India has been consistently seeking the custody of all three, but Pakistan has refused to comply.

Similarly, Al Badr has also been involved in series of attacks in Jammu and Kashmir.

The LeT, the JeM and Al Badr are listed as terrorist organisations under the First Schedule of the UAPA. The UAPA has been enacted to provide for more effective prevention of certain unlawful activities of associations and individuals, dealing with terrorist activities and matters connected therewith.

The Act empowers the Centre to notify the name of an individual in its Fourth Schedule if it believes that he is involved in terrorism.

Single New

recoveries has reached 4,49,152, officials said.

The COVID-19 death toll stands at 4,751. No new Covid-related fatality was reported in the last 24 hours, officials said. There were 51 confirmed cases of mucormycosis (black fungus), they added.

Tourist Dies Of

morning and was taken to Khyber hospital for treatment, reports said.

However, doctors after examining Parak found her dead.

The body of the deceased has been shifted to Police Control Room (PCR) Srinagar for completion of further formalities, a police official told a local news agency KDC.

Soldier Among 3

skidded off the road and fell down from a bridge near Veer Bhoomi park in Samba district, the officials said.

They said the soldier was posted in Srinagar and was on leave since March 26. He was on his way to Jammu from his Kathua residence when the accident took place.

In a separate incident, a trucker was killed when his vehicle rolled down into a deep gorge on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway near Khoooni Nalla in Ramban district, the officials said, adding the body of the deceased was recovered by police and civilian volunteers and is being identified.

In another incident, Shazia Akhtar (27) of Budhal was killed and her relatives Mohammad Ikhlaiq and his wife Nazia Kousar were injured when their private car plunged into a gorge at Tralla Rehan on Rajouri-Kotranka road in Rajouri district, the officials said.

They said the injured were shifted to a hospital and their condition was stated to be serious. (PTI)

Three Men Booked

magistrate, a police spokesman said. Kumar was wanted in over 20 cases including two related to drug peddling, he said, adding he was lodged in high-security Kot Bhalwal jail.

Two notorious drug peddlers, Talib Hussain and Surinder Kumar alias Sindu, were also arrested under the PSA in Reasi district and shifted to Kot Bhalwal jail, the spokesman said.

While Hussain was arrested on Tuesday, Surinder Kumar was apprehended on early Wednesday, he said.

He said four cases under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act and one case under the Arms Act stand registered against Hussain in different police stations over the past two years. Four cases under the NDPS and the Indian Penal Code are registered against Kumar at police station Katra, he added.

The PSA is an administrative law that allows detention without charge or trial for up to two years in some cases.

IUST Organizes “Meet The Eminent” Programme



Observer News Service

AWANTIPORA: To facilitate an interaction with prominent experts from diverse fields, Islamic University of Science & Technology organised “Meet the Eminent” programme during which former Director, CSIR-Central Institute of Mining and Fuel Research (CIM-FR) Prof. Bharat B. Dhar interacted with the students and faculty of the University.

The session was organised by the newly established office of Dean Outreach which was chaired by the Vice-Chancellor, IUST, Prof. Shakil A. Romshoo.

In his Presidential address, Prof. Romshoo called “Meet the Eminent” initiative as one of the important activities of the university being facilitated by the newly established office of Dean Outreach.

“It would connect with different stakeholders in the society and provide an opportunity to faculty and students to enter into meaningful, productive and sustainable collaborations with other institutions with a view to make IUST more vibrant and socially sensitive,” Prof. Romshoo added.

While discussing the aims and objectives of National Education Policy (NEP)- 2020, he underlined the importance of adopting ‘innovative pedagogies to create more experiential, holistic, integrated, inquiry-driven, discovery-oriented education while being learner-centred, discussion-based, flexible and enjoyable’ too.

He noted that inviting people from different walks of life will be a regular feature at the University and in this direction “Meet the Eminent” programme will help the next generation learn from the diverse experiences of acclaimed and accomplished people who have made a mark in their respective fields.

While appreciating the inbuilt multidisciplinary system of education existing at the IUST, invited speaker, Prof. Bharat B Dhar urged upon the students to strive hard to learn and perform

their responsibilities with utmost passion while making the most of academic opportunity at the university, with courses like Spiritual Studies, which would go a long way in enhancing ethical side of the individual.

Prof. Dhar, who has served as Professor of Mining Engineering at Banaras Hindu University since 1979 shared some of his experiences with the students and underscored the importance of exchanges and mobility in life and called upon students to move around in the world and explore it thoroughly for new learnings and new opportunities.

Earlier, while welcoming the guests, Dean Outreach, IUST Prof. Shabir Ahmad Bhat, said that such programmes provide students an opportunity to interact with the most experienced and distinguished people who have made a mark in their respective fields to gain new learnings and experiences. Prof. Shabir said that from academic perspective, even NEP-2020 provided with an opportunity to connect with other institutions and people of eminence which would empower our youth and enhance their decision-making skills effectively. “There is need to make our education more result-oriented, more meaningful and the establishment of the office of Dean Outreach at IUST is a step in that direction”, he added.

Dean, Academic Affairs, IUST, Prof Manzoor Ahmad Malik in his address hailed such initiatives as a golden opportunity for the students to learn from the experiences of the eminent personalities. He elaborated upon the thrust areas of NEP-2020 and said that the letter and spirit of NEP can have enormous impact and influence on the lives of people. He called upon addressing emerging issues like environment, climate change, mentor-mentee relationship and focus on demand driven courses. Deputy Registrar, office of Dean Outreach Dr Iqbal Quraishi, moderated the session and proposed the vote of thanks.

NATIONAL PANCHAYAT RAJ DAY

Govt Creates Web Link To Facilitate Live Telecast

Observer News Service

JAMMU: Government has created a registration Web link to enable members of Panchayat fraternity and other stakeholders to watch National Panchayat Raj Day (NPRD-2022) event live which is scheduled to be held on April 24.

The members of Panchayat fraternity can register on the link: <https://pmevents.ncog.gov.in/> for watching the NPRD-2022 event live from 12:00 noon on April 24, 2022.

The concerned department(s) have been asked to encourage the elected representatives and functionaries of Panchayati Raj Institutions, Rural Local Bodies as well as other stakeholders and general rural masses to register online on the designated link [<https://pmevents.ncog.gov.in/>] for viewing the Prime Minister’s interaction with Panchayat representatives and address to Special Gram Sabhas across the country on April 24, 2022 (National Panchayati Raj Day).

Major Setback To Apni Party In Jammu

State Women's President, Several Leaders Resign

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: In a major setback to Jammu and Kashmir Apni Party, its women’s wing state president Namrata Sharma and several of her women colleagues resigned from the party on Wednesday — minutes after the party announced the immediate suspension of the state women president and the provincial committee on the recommendations of the disciplinary committee.

The dramatic turn of events unfolded within days after the party president and former minister Altaf Bukhari held a series of public meetings in Samba, Kathua and Jammu in an attempt to strengthen the party.

My whole team has tendered resignation from the party on April 18 to protest ignoring of Jammu leadership and unnecessary curbs to stop us from raising the public issues like the demand for restoration of statehood before assembly elections and holiday on account of the last Dogra ruler Maharaja Hari Singh’s birthday, Sharma told reporters here.

Flanked by several party colleagues including provincial vice president Jyoti Ved and provincial secretaries Parvinder Kour, Sapna and Rittu, the woman leader said it was a very difficult decision for them to leave a party for which



we have given our sweat and blood over the past two years.

You might have seen many other leaders like Jammu district president Pranab Shagotra, provincial youth president Gourav Kapoor, Kashmiri pandit leaders Vinod Pandita and Sanjay Dhar and Kashmiri leader Irfan Naqeeb leaving the party in the recent past along with many elected panchayat members. It is all because the leaders are being ignored and they are unable to raise public issues, she said.

The party is accused of being the B-team of BJP which invested in the party after failing to make inroads in Kashmir whenever we tried to speak against the administration for its anti-people policies, we were asked by the leadership to keep silent which shows that the party is in hand-in-glove with the saffron party, Sharma said.

She said the party was formed

on the slogan of restoration of statehood to J-K after the abrogation of Article 370 in August 2019 but it has failed to keep its promises and done nothing to raise the demand.

On April 17, Bukhari called for release of former MLA Engineer Rashid (arrested in a case related to terror funding through hawala) but on the other we are not allowed to speak in support of the demand for holiday on account of birthday of our last Dogra ruler who is our pride. We were feeling strangled in the party, she said, adding the people in Jammu are nationalist by core and can go to any extent to safeguard the national interests and the Dogra pride.

Asked whether she is planning to join any other party, Sharma said she has not taken any decision yet but would like to speak to her people before making up her mind.

Gupta Calls For Accelerating Development Works In J&K

Observer News Service

JAMMU: Principal Secretary Housing & Urban Development Department, Dheeraj Gupta on Wednesday chaired a meeting to discuss annual action plan proposals submitted by various heads of departments.

Principal Secretary acknowledged that more projects could have been executed and finished in the last financial year and directed executing agencies to pump up their performance in the current year. He assured that there are sufficient funds lying around for development works and all viable and genuine projects should be immediately started with seed money and technical sanction.

Principal Secretary directed all heads of concerned departments



to submit monthly progress report on progress of schemes of their respective jurisdictions. He encouraged development authorities of Jammu and Srinagar cities and J&K Housing Board to submit fresh project proposals and gave nod to allocation of funds for master plans.

Dheeraj Gupta also spoke of instating Geographic Information System (GIS) platforms, its database monitoring and the benefits of their implementation in developmental works. He directed all urban local bod-

ies to gear up for the Swachhata Startup Challenge.

Principal Secretary interacted with the HoDs and told them that 80 percent of the works have already been approved and funds have been released respectively.

He also had a detailed discussion on J&K Mass Rapid Transit Corporation projects during the meeting. The meeting was attended by Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Dr Raghav Langer and heads of various departments and developmental bodies.

Man, Woman Found Dead Inside Car In Udhampur

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: The bodies of a man and a woman, both in their 20s, were found inside a car on Dhar road in Udhampur district of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said on Wednesday.

Rahul Klotra (28) of Gora Slathia and Vimla Devi (26) of Ramgarh, who were married separately, were found inside the car in an unconscious state near Darsoo village, 20 kms from Udhampur, late Tuesday night, the officials said.

They said some people got suspicious

and informed police about the car which was parked on the road for several hours.

Police broke the window panes and shifted the duo to hospital, where the doctors declared them brought dead, the officials said, adding preliminary investigations suggested that the two were having an affair and apparently died by suicide.

They said the autopsy of both was conducted at district hospital Udhampur on Wednesday and the bodies were handed over to their families after completion of all legal formalities.

Place Water Bowls For Strays Outside Homes, Offices: JMC

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Asserting that the mercury may rise up to 47 degrees Celsius here this summer, Jammu Municipal Corporation Commissioner Avny Lavasa on Wednesday appealed to the people to keep water bowls for stray animals to help them beat the heat.

Lavasa said the scorching heat is not only taking a toll on humans, but also affecting stray animals, cattle and birds.

Every year, a number of animals and birds die of heat stroke and one major reason behind their untimely death is lack of access to drinking water, she said.

“We can save these animals

and birds from the plight of summer months by putting a bowl of water outside our homes at prominent places and offices,” the JMC commissioner said.

Lavasa further pointed out that lack of water induces aggressive behaviour in animals and putting water bowls outside homes and offices can keep them in check.

She appealed to the people to let humanity prevail in these tough times by caring for these voiceless creatures.

The winter capital Jammu recorded the season’s hottest day on April 11 at 39.6 degrees Celsius, which was 7.5 notches above normal.

SUMMER SPECIAL TRAINS

In order to clear extra rush of passengers, Northern Railway has decided to run the following fully reserved Summer Special Trains as per schedule given below:-

04053/04054 Anand Vihar T. - Udhampur - Anand Vihar T. AC Summer Express Special Train (Bi-Weekly)				Trips 36	
Train No. 04053		STATIONS	Train No. 04054		
Arr.	Dep.		Arr.	Dep.	
--	23:00	Anand Vihar T.	11:15	--	
14:15	--	Udhampur	--	21:40	

Days of Run: 04053 Ex Anand Vihar T. from 02.05.2022 to 30.06.2022 on every Monday & Thursday (Bi-Weekly) and 04054 Ex Udhampur from 03.05.2022 to 01.07.2022 on every Tuesday & Friday (Bi-Weekly).

Accommodation: First AC, AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier

Stoppages: Ghaziabad, Meerut City, Muzaffarnagar, Saharanpur, Yamunanagar Jagadhari, Ambala Cantt., Ludhiana, Jalandhar Cantt., Pathankot Cantt. & Jammu Tawi stations

04052/04051 Anand Vihar T. - Banaras - Anand Vihar T. Express Summer Special Train (Bi-Weekly)				Trips 34	
Train No. 04052		STATIONS	Train No. 04051		
Arr.	Dep.		Arr.	Dep.	
--	23:00	Anand Vihar T.	08.05	--	
11:50	--	Banaras	--	17:30	

Days of Run: 04052 Ex Anand Vihar T. from 01.05.2022 to 26.06.2022 on every Friday and Sunday (Bi-Weekly) and 04051 Ex Banaras from 02.05.2022 to 27.06.2022 on every Saturday and Monday (Bi-Weekly).

Accommodation: First AC cum AC 2 Tier, AC 3 Tier & Sleeper

Stoppages: Kanpur Central, Prayagraj, Janghai Jn. & Bhadohi Station.

Note: All norms of the State and Central Government regarding COVID-19 including Wearing face mask and Social distancing etc., may be followed in the trains and at the Railway stations. All other precautions associated with COVID-19 should also be ensured.

NOTE: Passengers are therefore, advised to please check the detailed Time-Table of above trains through RailMadad Helpline No. 139 or visit Indian Railways website <https://enquiry.indianrail.gov.in> or the NTES App.

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New Land Laws Foster Industrialization, Revamp Agri Sector: Govt

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The new land laws introduced in Jammu and Kashmir replaced 11 Land Laws that existed in the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir, which reflected old regressive, intrinsically contradictory and outdated laws, with a set of modern, progressive and people friendly provisions, a government spokesperson said Wednesday.

The new land laws, he said, will not only afford protection to over 90% of the land in J&K from being alienated to outsiders but will also help revamp the agriculture sector, foster rapid industrialization, aid economic growth and create jobs in J&K.

“The J&K Government, which is constantly working towards creating a modern, efficient, transparent and citizen friendly UT, has ensured protections and safeguards for the land after introduction of new land laws,” he said.

The spokesperson said that the new land laws are being hailed by the people of Jammu and Kashmir as a major step towards development and progress of J&K. He said that the historic initiative of the government will revamp agriculture and allied sectors besides

ensuring holistic development of all sectors.

The Ministry of Home Affairs, through an order on October 26, introduced amendments to 14 laws of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir and repealed 12 others. Key amendments were made to four major state laws that governed the ownership, sale, and purchase of land in the erstwhile state. These are The J&K Development Act, 1970, The J&K Land Revenue Act, 1996, The Agrarian Reforms Act, 1976 and The J&K Land Grants Act, 1960.

“The designation of land for industrial purposes will open up greater employment avenues for the youth who have always yearned for industrial revolution in J&K so that they can get better employment opportunities,” he said.

According to the new land law, the spokesperson said, agricultural land can only be sold to an agriculturist and he has been defined as a person who cultivates land personally in the UT.

He said that the term ‘agriculture land’ unambiguously is defined to include not just agriculture but horticulture and allied agro-activities as well. The most extensive definition includes not just horticulture but poultry, Ani-

mal Husbandry, fallow land etc also.

“While progressive provisions of the repealed laws have been retained by including them in the modified Land Revenue Act, new provisions have been added to modernize existing laws. There are provisions for setting up of a Board of Revenue, Regional planning for regulating the use of land, alienation and conversion, land lease, consolidation and Contract Farming. The Board of Revenue comprising senior officers will not only be the Developing Authority for preparing regional plans but can notify a scheme of consolidation of landholdings and also a scheme for restricting and regulating the fragmentation of agricultural landholdings to make agriculture viable,” he added.

Last year in October, the spokesperson said, the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said that “not an inch of agricultural land” in Jammu and Kashmir has been given to anyone from outside the UT while addressing gathering after launching the Apple festival 2021 at SKICC.

He assured the farmers that “no agricultural land has been given to any one from outside and to protect the land of Jammu and Kash-

mir is responsibility of the government of Jammu and Kashmir”.

One must speak with responsibility and it is a fact that not even an inch of land belonging to any farmer has been given to anyone from outside Jammu and Kashmir and even law states that agricultural land has to be protected. With due respect to this law, it is the responsibility of the Jammu and Kashmir government to safeguard the agricultural lands”, LG maintained.

As a major initiative towards good governance and ease of convenience to the citizens, the Revenue Department started issuance of trilingual Land Passbooks in Hindi, Urdu and English to the landholders with effect from 19th of February 2022 from the districts of Jammu and Srinagar.

The land passbooks being issued to every landholder contain sentry from the Jamabandi in revenue estate so as to enable him to make its use for credit facilities and for other matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. The land passbook prescribed by the Revenue Department is true to the record and can be generated online by landholders without visiting a Patwari or Tehsildar or any Revenue office.

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