



P3 CITY

CYBER POLICE ARRESTS NOTORIOUS FRAUDSTER FROM NEW DELHI

Cyber Police Kashmir, on Tuesday said it arrested a Srinagar based notorious con-man involved in dozens of online cheating and fraud cases.

THINK

STREAM OF SHARING

A smartphone and a finger click are all you need to create a virtual domino effect. After all, a click has no legs to stand on. A single click leads to another. And thereby our fingers are conditioned to share without care. And soon it becomes our second nature.



P7 STATE

TEACHER'S KILLING TRIGGERS PROTESTS IN JAMMU

Protests against the killing of a Hindu schoolteacher in Kulgam district rocked several parts of Jammu city on Tuesday, with protesters burning an effigy of the



Quote!

Evil is whatever distracts.

- Franz Kafka

NEWS DIGEST

Haj Pilgrims Asked To Deposit Arrangement Dues

Srinagar: The J&K Haj Committee on Tuesday asked the selected Haj pilgrims to deposit arrangement dues, including insurance premium, transport charges from and other charges in the Committee's bank account. In a statement issued here, the J&K Haj Committee asked the pilgrims **More on P6**

J&K Reports Single New Corona Case

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir reported one new Covid case on Tuesday that took the infection tally to 4,54,249, officials said. The only case was reported from Jammu district, they said. There are 54 active cases, while the overall recoveries have reached 4,49,443, officials said. The COVID-19 death toll stands at 4,752. **More on P6**

CRPF Man Allegedly Hangs Self

Budgam: A Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) trooper allegedly died by suicide at Humahama in Budgam. An official said the deceased has been identified as HC/GD Gulshan Rai of RTC Humama, was found hanging on Tuesday morning. He said the trooper was brought to Composite hospital BSF Humama where doctors declared him dead. The official **More on P6**

Man Booked For Blasphemous Comments

Jammu- A man has been booked in Jammu and Kashmir's Ramban district for allegedly hurting the religious sentiments of Hindus with his blasphemous comments against Lord Shiva, police said on Monday. In a written complaint submitted to officials at the Kastigarh police post, complainant Rajeshwar alleged that one Basharat Wani has made blasphemous comments on **More on P6**

2 Persons Killed In Kishtwar Accident

Jammu: Two persons were killed and six others were injured after a vehicle they were travelling in met with an accident in Kishtwar district on Tuesday. They said that the load carrier vehicle (JK02VJ-4112) carrying 8 people, heading for Mindal Mata yatra, skidded off the road and tilted on the road near Shanderi Nalah Sohal. Two persons identified as Mangat Ram (55) son of **More on P6**

School Teacher Shot Dead In Kulgam

Killing Evokes Condemnation, Trigger Protests By KP Employees



Kashmiri Pandit employees on Tuesday staged a sit-in near the Badami Bagh Cant Sonwar to protest the killing of a school teacher in Kulgam: KO Photo, Abid Bhat

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Unidentified militants on Tuesday shot dead a

female teacher from Samba near her school in South Kashmir's Kulgam district, sparking off protests by the

Kashmiri Pandit employees recruited under the Prime Minister's package. The incident occurred **More on P6**

LG Promises 'Unforgettable Response'

The Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Tuesday condemned the killing of a school teacher in South Kashmir's Kulgam district and pledged "unforgettable response" to her assailants. 36-year-old **More on P6**

KP Employees Threaten Mass Migration

Kashmiri Pandits, employed under the PM package, on Tuesday threatened to undertake mass migration from the valley if the government did not relocate them to safe places within next 24 hours as employees **More on P6**

Kulgam district, Jaishankar said the Centre is confident of winning the battle against terrorism which has been going on for many years. "Our fight against terrorism, which has been going on for several years, will continue. See, terrorism will not end in one day. But, even terrorists know that the present regime is not like the previous government," **More on P6**

Terrorism Will Not End In One Day: Jaishankar

In the wake of militants shooting dead a woman teacher in Jammu and Kashmir, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Tuesday said terrorism will not end in one day and expressed confidence in winning the ongoing battle against extremism. Responding to a question of reporters in Gujarat's Vadodara city about the targeted killing of the teacher by militants in Kashmir's

Prof Bhim Singh Passes Away



Press Trust Of India

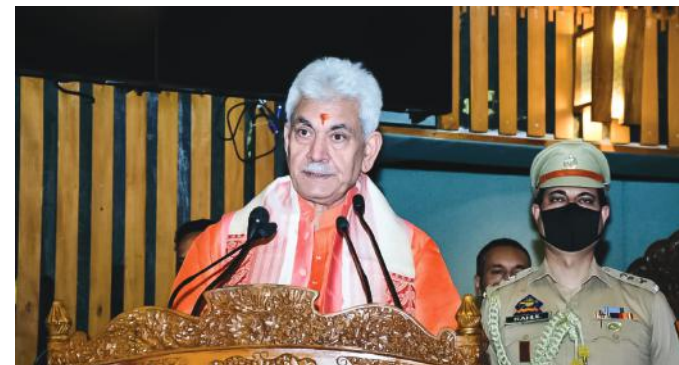
JAMMU: Veteran Jammu leader and founder of National Panthers Party Prof Bhim Singh passed away in Jammu on Tuesday after being unwell for about a month. He was 81. The former legislator hailed from Udhampur district's Bhugterian village. He has left behind his wife Jai Mala and son Ankit Love, who lives in London.

Singh breathed his last at GMC Hospital here.

Expressing his condolences, Prime Minister Narendra Modi tweeted, "Prof Bhim Singh Ji will be remembered as a grassroots leader who devoted **More on P6**

J&K Was Deprived Of Development For Seven Decades: LG

Says Constitutional Provisions To Provide Equal Rights To People Being Implemented



Observer News Service

Srinagar: Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said on Tuesday that Jammu & Kashmir and its

people were deprived of the development for seven decades and that the constitutional provisions to provide equal rights to common people **More on P6**

Calls For Setting New Benchmarks In Curbing Corruption

The Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Tuesday urged the Anti Corruption Bureau (ACB) and the General Administration Department (GAD) to adopt anti-corruption measures and preventive actions using the latest technologies, and work in collaboration to set new benchmarks in curbing corrupt practices. The LG made these remarks after inaugurating the additional office block of ACB **More on P6**

6 UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF PRIME MINISTER, within one year, industrial investment of Rs 38,000 crore was approved in the UT and it will increase to Rs 75,000 crore in the coming days.

CPWD Engineers Protest Detention Of Two Colleagues In J&K

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: Members of the CPWD Engineers Association on Tuesday staged a protest outside Nirman Bhawan here over the illegal detention of two colleagues in Ramban district by Jammu and Kashmir Police on directions of Amarnath Shrine Board CEO Nitishwar Kumar.

A heavy police deployment was made at the protest site.

Later, the Central Public Works Department (CPWD) engineers met Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs Hardeep Singh Puri and submitted a memorandum, demanding apology from CEO Kumar for "illegal detention" and

alleged misbehaviour with two CPWD engineers, R K Mattu and Rizwan Alam, in J&K.

"We visited Hardeep Singh Puri's office and demanded a formal apology from the concerned officer. We wrote to J&K Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on May 26, but received no response from him. We will continue our protest until they explain and apologise for the unlawful detention," President of CPWD Engineers Association Neeraj Kalia told PTI.

Through the memorandum, the association has demanded that the matter be taken up with Ministry of Home Affairs and J&K LG for disciplinary action, and "devise **More on P6**

Kashmir Essential Part Of Modi's New India Journey: Jitendra Singh

Observer News Service

Budgam: Asserting that Kashmir is an essential part of PM Modi's New India journey, the Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh said on Tuesday that a three-tier system of government has been introduced for the first time in the Union Territory in seventy years and it will not be long before people get to see and feel the benefits of such a system.

Singh made these remarks while addressing a public gathering at Budgam on Tuesday, an official spokesperson said.

Titled "Gareeb Kalyan Sammelan", the event was organised at the Bihishte Zahra Park in Budgam to mark the completion of eight years in service of the current government.



"Kashmir is an essential part of PM Modi's New India journey. It is time to avail of the enormous new openings initiated over the last 8 years, which are shaping the destiny

JKCA SCAM

ED Grills Dr Farooq For Over 3 Hours

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: The Enforcement Directorate on Tuesday questioned National Conference president Farooq Abdullah for over three hours in connection with a money laundering case linked to alleged financial irregularities in the Jammu and Kashmir Cricket Association.

The Lok Sabha MP from Srinagar reached the ED office at Rajbagh here around 11 am. Before going inside the ED office, the former chief minister linked his questioning by the ED with the forthcoming assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir.

"I won't say much (about the

6 I WON'T SAY MUCH (ABOUT THE SUMMONS) ... there are elections to be held and they will trouble us till then."

summons) ... there are elections to be held and they will trouble us till then," he said.

He looked relaxed while leaving the office after being grilled for nearly three-and-a-half hours but refused to take questions from the media waiting outside.

On May 27, the ED had summoned Abdullah to its Srinagar office in connection with **More on P6**

Dr Farooq Calls For All Party Meet To Curb Target Killings

Agencies

Jammu: National Conference (NC) president and incumbent Member of Parliament from Srinagar constituency, Dr Farooq Abdullah Tuesday pitched for the all party meeting to discuss ways and means to put an end to the civilian killings in Jammu and Kashmir and said that such issues cannot be dealt with forces and police.

Talking to media persons, Dr Farooq said that the killing of a teacher in Kulgam district today has put a question mark over the claims of peace and safety of people by the government.

"Making statements with regard to peace in J&K won't change the reality. The policemen, Kashmiri Pandits and Muslims are being killed, but the government is still reluctant to accept the fact **More on P6**

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China's Population Is About To Shrink For The First Time Since The Great Famine

The Conversation

The world's biggest nation is about to shrink. China accounts for more than one sixth of the world's population.

Yet after four extraordinary decades in which China's population has swelled from 660 million to 1.4 billion, its population is on track to turn down this year, for the first time since the great famine of 1959-1961.

According to the latest figures from China's National Bureau of Statistics, China's population grew from 1.41212 billion to just 1.41260 billion in 2021 a record low increase of just 480,000, a mere fraction of the annual growth of eight million or so common a decade ago.

While a reluctance to have children in the face of strict anti-COVID measures might have contributed to the slowdown in births, it has been coming for years. China's total fertility rate (births per woman) was 2.6 in the late 1980s well above the 2.1 needed to replace deaths.

It has been between 1.6 and 1.7 since 1994, and slipped to 1.3 in 2020 and just 1.15 in 2021.

By way of comparison, in Australia and the United States the total fertility rate is 1.6 births per woman. In ageing Japan it is 1.3. This has happened despite China abandoning its one-child policy in 2016 and introducing a three-child policy, backed by tax and other incentives, last year.

This has happened despite China abandoning its one-child policy in 2016 and introducing a three-child policy, backed by tax and other incentives, last year. Theories differ about why Chinese women remain reluctant to have children in the face of state incentives. One involves having become used to small families, another



China's total population grew by a post-famine low of just 0.34 in 1,000 last year. Projections prepared by a team at the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences have it falling this year for the first time post-famine by 0.49 in a thousand.

involves the rising cost of living, another involves increasing marriage age, which delay births and the dampens the desire to have children.

In addition, China has fewer women of child-bearing age than might be expected. Limited to having only one child since 1980, many couples opted for a boy, lifting the sex at birth ratio from 106 boys for every 100 girls (the ratio in most of the rest of the world) to 120, and in some provinces to 130.

Shrinking, on reasonable assumptions China's total population grew by a post-famine low of just 0.34 in

1,000 last year. Projections prepared by a team at the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences have it falling this year for the first time post-famine by 0.49 in a thousand. The turning point has come a decade sooner than expected.

As recently as 2019 the China Academy of Social Sciences expected the population to peak in 2029, at 1.44 billion.

The 2019 United Nations Population Prospects report expected the peak later still, in 2031-32, at 1.46 billion.

The Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences team predicts an annual average decline of 1.1% after 2021, pushing China's population down

to 587 million in 2100, less than half of what it is today.

The reasonable assumptions behind that prediction are that China's total fertility rate slips from 1.15 to 1.1 between now and 2030, and remains there until 2100. The rapid decline will have a profound impact on China's economy. China's working-age population peaked in 2014 and is projected to shrink to less than one third of that peak by 2100.

China's elderly population (aged 65 and above) is expected to continue to climb for most of that time, passing China's working-age population near 2080.

Older, and much less young

This means that while there are currently 100 working-age people available to support every 20 elderly people, by 2100, 100 working-age Chinese will have to support as many as 120 elderly Chinese.

The annual average decline of 1.73% in China's working-age population sets the scene for much lower economic growth, unless productivity advances rapidly. Higher labour costs, driven by the rapidly shrinking labour force, are set to push low-margin, labour-intensive manufacturing out of China to labour-abundant countries such as Vietnam, Bangladesh and India.

Already manufacturing labour costs in China are twice as high as in Vietnam.

More caring, less manufacturing At the same time, China will be required to direct more of its productive resources to provision of health, medical and aged-care services to meet the demands of an increasingly elderly population. Modelling by the Centre of Policy Studies at Victoria University suggests that without changes to China's pension system, its pension payments will grow five-fold from 4% of GDP in 2020 to 20% of GDP in 2100.

For resource-exporting nations such as Australia, these changes are likely to require a reorientation of exports towards manufacturers outside China.

For importers of goods including the United States, the source of goods is set to gradually shift towards new and emerging centres of manufacturing. Despite forecasts that this will be the Chinese century, these population projections suggest influence might move elsewhere including to neighbouring India, whose population is expected to overtake China within this coming decade.

از نیات منن با اجلاس ایکویٹومجسٹریٹ دیچراول
مضمون درخواست منیاب: نامم ثارو عاصم ثار پیران ثار احمد بٹ سائیکرکلو تحصیل
منن ضلع ایست ناگ بغرض حصول :-RBA سر تقیٹ
اشھار برادر آگاہی ہر خاص و عام۔

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02	شہزادہ اختر زوجہ ثار احمد بٹ	ملازم	52 سال	LPC
03	عاقب ثار ولد ثار احمد بٹ	زیر تعلیم	30 سال	
04	آصف ثار ولد ثار احمد بٹ	زیر تعلیم	28 سال	
05	عاصم ثار ولد ثار احمد بٹ	زیر تعلیم	25 سال	
06	عاصم ثار ولد ثار احمد بٹ	زیر تعلیم	23 سال	

اس طرح ساکان کا کثیر 06 افراد پر مشتمل ہے۔ لہذا سر تقیٹ مذکورہ کو حاصل کرنے
میں اگر کسی کو کوئی اعتراض ہو گا وہ ایک ہفتہ کے دوران دفتر کی اوقات میں اپنا اعتراض
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(تحریر الصدا نگیز یونیورسٹی دیچراول) rna

Public Notice

I have applied for fertilizer license. If anybody having any objection in this regard He/She May contact office of the Chief Agriculture officer Anantnag within the period of 7 days. After that no objection will be entertained.
NAME: NAZIR AHMAD SHEIKH S/O: HABIBULLAH SHEIKH
R/o: SALLAR ANANTNAG ma

Public Notice

This is inform general public that I have applied for pesticides license. In this regard any person having any objection He/She may contact office of the PPO Lal Mandi Srinagar within seven days from the date of publication of this notice. No objection shall be entertained after that.
Name: NAZIR AHMAD SHEIKH S/O: HABIBULLAH SHEIKH
R/O: SALLAR ANANTNAG ma

Office Of The Assistant Regional Transport Officer Budgam Kashmir

NOTICE

Where a application for transfer of ownership has been recieved from one. Shri : Manzoor Ahmad Ganie S/o: Ghulam Ahmad Ganie R/o: Kulbugh Khansahib Budgam (Transferor) of LMV (wagonR). Vehicle bearing registration number JK04D- 0510. Chasis number 76983 Engine no. 15869 Model 2015. in favour of Shri.. Mohammad Ashraf Khan S/o. Khan Mir R/o Chanderkote Ramban (Transferee) as well as HPA cancellation with M/S J & K Bank Ltd B/U Parnewa.
Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any to the proposed transfer of ownership shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 12 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper .
No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.10141
Dated 31-05-2022
Assistant Regional Transport officer
Budgam Kashmir

mcb

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Google Assistant To Soon Recognise Your Voice

IAN S

Google Assistant will soon recognise your voice as the company is working on a personalised speech recognition feature.

According to 9to5Google, the tool will help Google Assistant get "better at recognising your frequent words and names." The "Personalised speech recognition" feature will appear in Google Assistant settings. The feature description reads: "Store audio recordings on this device to help Google Assistant get better at rec-



ognising what you say. Audio stays on this device and can be deleted any time by turning off personalised speech recognition".

The upcoming feature looks to expand AT and ML-based improvements beyond "Hey Google" to your actual Assistant commands, "especially those with names (using your voice to message contacts) and frequently spoken words".

It's still not clear when this capability will launch. The feature will allow more advanced recognition of commands and contact names.

Owing to privacy concerns, Google will give users an option in settings to opt out of the personalised speech recognition if they don't want their voice to be stored. The virtual assistant software application can now also warn users when they need to change their password, and can even help them change it.

The company had said the new experience would roll out gradually, but it is only about now that more than a handful of users have started to get it on their devices

Sad Demise

We inform you the sad demise of Mst Fazi W/o Mohammad sultan Bhat R/o Malik Angan Fateh Kadal Srinagar who died on 31-05-2022. It for the information of general public that tazyat will be only for 3 days .

Note :ladies are requested not to bring any kind of items with them .

BEREAVED

Grand sons Waseem Farooq Matta and Shabir Ahmad khan
Contact no :9419054772. 9596547684. 9906740128

E-mail:- techrbpu786@gmail.com

Phone:- 01933-295302,

Government of Jammu & Kashmir(UT) OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER R&B DIVISION PULWAMA.

TENDER NOTICE

E-NIT No :- fresh 63/EEP/RNB/of 2022-23/2608-2618

Dated: 30 /05/2022

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

S. No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost in (Rs. Lacs.)	Cost of T/D (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.) in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG	Time of Completion in Working Days	Class of Contract	Major Head	Administrative Approval No:
1	Construction of Drain from H/O Abdul Gani Bhat to H/O Mushtaq Ahmad Bhat Ward No 5 at MC Awantipora.	2.02	200/-	2% of Adv. cost	10 Working Days	DEE	Normal Resources	MC/AWP/ of 2022-03 Dated: 10.05.2022.
2	Construction of CC Drain from House of Abdul Qayoom Shah to H/o Nazir Ahmad Shah Ward No 2 Booh at MC Awantipora.	1.54	200/-	2% of Adv. cost	10 Working Days	DEE	IDMT	MC/AWP/ of 2022-01 Dated: 10.05.2022.
3	Construction of Protection Wall from H/O Farooq Ahmad Khatroo to H/o Gh Mohi-uddin Khatroo at MC Awantipora.	1.00	200/-	2% of Adv. cost	10 Working Days	DEE	IDMT	MC/AWP/ of 2022-01 Dated: 10.05.2022.
4	Construction of concrete path with tiles from H/o Mohd Abdullah Pandith to Masjid Sharief Umar and protection Bund from the H/o Abdul Hamid Pandith to Masjid Sharief Umar.	1.31	200/-	2% of Adv. cost	10 Working Days	DEE	IDMT	MC/AWP/ of 2022-01 Dated: 10.05.2022.
5	Construction of R/Wall from H/o Mohd Rafiq Bhat to H/o Nisar Ahmad Bhat.	1.50	200/-	2% of Adv. cost	10 Working Days	DEE	IDMT	MC/AWP/ of 2022-01 Dated: 10.05.2022.
6	Construction of R-wall from Mohd Subhan Sheikh to H/o Parvaiz Ahmad Sheikh at MC Awantipora.	1.50	200/-	2% of Adv. cost	10 Working Days	DEE	IDMT	MC/AWP/ of 2022-01 Dated: 10.05.2022.
7	Construction of Protection Wall near house of Mushtaq Ahmad Chowpan and others at MC Awantipora.	1.50	200/-	2% of Adv. cost	10 Working Days	DEE	IDMT	MC/AWP/ of 2022-01 Dated: 10.05.2022.
8	Dredging/cleaning of Drain from Old NH to abdul hamid Bhat at MC Awantipora.	1.48	200/-	2% of Adv. cost	10 Working Days	DEE	IDMT	MC/AWP/ of 2022-01 Dated: 10.05.2022.
9	Construction of covered Drain/lane from Town Hall to H/O Mohd Amin at MC Awantipora.	2.00	200/-	2% of Adv. cost	10 Working Days	DEE	IDMT	MC/AWP/ of 2022-01 Dated: 10.05.2022.

The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website
www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of date given below:-

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	30 /05/2022
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 30/05/2022 10:00 A.M.
3.	Bid submission Start Date	30/05/2022 from 10.00 A.M
4.	Bid Submission End Date	07/06/2022 upto 4.00 P.M
5.	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	07/06/2022 at 4.30 P.M in the Office of the Executive Engineer R&B Div. Pulwama
6.	Submission of Performance Security (PS)	Within 3 days of receipt of LOA. (The First lowest successful bidder has to provide 3% of allotted cost as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/ FDR/BG and EMD of 2% shall be released after receipt of 3% Performance security.

1. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Challan/Receipt (Debited to M.H.0059 PWD) showing clearly the name of work along with NIT No. & S.No. failing which the tender will be rejected out rightly and EMD in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Div.Pulwama.
2. The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the office of Executive Engineer R&B Div.Pulwama
3. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of bids.
4. If first lowest bidder fails to deposit 3% as performance security within prescribed date the work will be put to fresh tenders at his risk and cost and the CDR/FDR/BG will be forfeited and shall be debared from participating the tendering process for the period of one year in this division.
All other terms and conditions shall be available in website www.jktenders.gov.in

Head Draftsman

DIPK-3060/22

Technical Officer

Executive Engineer,
R&B Division Pulwama

World No Tobacco Day In Srinagar, 23 Percent School Going Children Are Smokers, Reveals Survey

Agencies

Srinagar: A school-based cross sectional survey on Prevalence of cigarette smoking among adolescent boys in Srinagar has found that 23 percent of school going adolescents are smokers in the capital city of Jammu and Kashmir.

The first such survey conducted by the Department of Community Medicine Government Medical College Srinagar was published in the first issue of Journal of Integrative Medicine and Public Health (JIMPH) and was made available today.

As per the survey, the school based cross sectional study was conducted from June 2015 to March 2017 in 20 high schools selected randomly from public and private sectors.

“Male students from grade 9-12, in the age limit of 13-19 were included in the study. Data were collected by self-administered questionnaire that is adapted from global youth tobacco survey questionnaire. Bivariate and multivari-

ate analysis were made using logistic regression on SPSS version 20.0 software in order to predict factors associated with tobacco use,” the survey reads.

It states that the prevalence of cigarette smoking among adolescent boys was found to be 29percent ever smokers, and 23percent current smokers.

“In addition, sixty percent adolescents were exposed to tobacco smoke from others in public places. In the multivariate analysis parent smoking, peer smoking, exposure to movie with actors smoking, not being exposed to anti-smoking media messages, not discussing in the class about danger of smoking, were significantly associated with current cigarette smoking among adolescents,” the survey reads, adding that “the prevalence rate is increasing in its spread, exposure to environmental tobacco exposure is widespread. Moreover adolescents should be enriched with knowledge on the dangers of tobacco use.”

Project “Traam” Initiated To Uplift Copperware Artisans Economically

Observer News Service

Srinagar: In order to upgrade the skill set of traditional Copperware Craft Artisans with innovative design techniques, a meeting of the District Skill Development Committee was held today under the Chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad.

The meeting held a deliberation with regard to the initiatives taken for the socio economic development of Copperware Artisans and rejuvenation of the craft..

On the occasion, the Project “Traam” was initiated with the aim to increase the income levels of Copperware Artisans of Shahr e Khaas and uplift their socio-economic conditions, besides rejuvenate the traditional heritage Craft in the Shahr e Khaas of the District.

The DC directed all the line departments to work in a well-knit strategy to promote the Project “Traam” and explore all opportunities so that people associated with Copperware manufacturing

and copperware designing are benefitted from the Government schemes.

The DC asked the General Manager DIC to work out the plan for establishing a Copper Purity Testing Lab in Srinagar District to ensure fidelity of the utensils made of Copperware.

He also asked the Industries Department to identify space at Yatra Transit camp, Pantha chowk for setting up of Copperware Stalls to facilitate visiting Yatries with sale of Copperware craft products.

He also directed the concerned Departments to reach out to the target population of the District so that they are benefitted from such schemes. He also asked the concerned Departments to hold interaction sessions with the people associated with the trade so that they are given first-hand information about the Government sponsored schemes besides are familiarized with modern market driven designing developments in line with traditional heritage and culture.

Dal Inhabitants Appeal LG To Post Exen To Lake Division

Agencies

Srinagar: Inhabitants of Dal Lake Tuesday appealed to LG administration to post an Executive Engineer to Lake Division 1st which is currently under the additional charge of Executive Engineer Lake Division 2nd.

The inhabitants told news agency Kashmir News Trust that for the past 10 months Lake Division 1st is headless which has badly affected the working of Dal Lake. They said that the Executive Engineer who manages the affairs of both the Divisions is supposed to attain su-

perannuation in the next month.

“In absence of any authority at Lake Division 1st, the monitoring work, de-weeding, and beautification of Dal Lake has been badly affected,” they said.

The inhabitants said that it is a sensitive posting and yet it is not being filled. “The man with additional charge is busy with the paperwork as he is supposed to attain superannuation. We need a full-time officer who could manage the affairs properly and address the problems of Dal dwellers,” they said. (KNT)

Cyber Police Arrests Notorious Fraudster From New Delhi

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Cyber Police Kashmir, on Tuesday said it arrested a Srinagar based notorious con-man involved in dozens of online cheating and fraud cases.

“A team of Cyber Police Kashmir apprehended Haroon Fayaz Bazaz son of Fayaz Ahmad Bazaz resident of Alamgari Bazaar, Srinagar from New Delhi”.

“The accused has duped dozens of people on the pretext of selling online clothes and cheap airline tickets, and he was mainly operating from Delhi and Goa”, Police in a statement said.

Cyber Police Kashmir received a complaint from Ishfaq Ahmad son of Gh. Mohd Bhat resident of Bandipora on 25-09-2021.

“While using social media site Facebook, he saw a post uploaded by one Facebook user having a Facebook page ‘Craft Core Exports’ dealing with winter clothes collection”. He contacted the said Facebook user on his given mobile number, who introduced himself as wholesale dealer of clothes, presently running a shop in the name of Haroon Bazaz & Co, located at 8/21 Jangpur Extension, South Delhi. The complainant ordered some clothes and electronic items online from him, for which he transferred a staggering amount of Rs 3, 61,000 into the accused’s bank account. After that, the said Facebook user



switched off his phone. Later on, the complainant came to know that the said Facebook user is a notorious fraudster who is impersonating himself as a businessman on social media platforms for the purpose of defrauding innocent people of their hard earned money.

On the receipt of this information, case FIR no 25/2021 under relevant sections of law was registered and investigation taken up.

During investigation, this Police Station came to know that this online fraudster has not only duped the complainant but dozens of other people in Kashmir valley on the pretext of cheap airline ticket fraud.

“The Modus Operandi of the accused was to create fake Social Media profiles to impersonate authentic travel agencies and then post advertisements for cheap air tickets with the best offer”.

“People, in an urgency to travel by Air, search low price travel tickets on social media sites and upon click-baiting to the accused’s site, they would get trapped in this fraud”.

Cyber Police said gullible customers shared personal details and made online payments to the fraudster’s bank account. After paying money online, the said fraudster would not provide tickets to customers and when customers called him, his mobile number would be switched off siphoning off the money of gullible citizens.

Almost a dozen complaints of such nature were received from different persons.

Another case FIR no. 27/2022 under relevant sections was registered by Police Station Cyber.

“the accused deftly evaded arrest by frequently changing his locations”, Police said.

Utilizing technical expertise and investigative acumen of the Cyber Police team, the accused was found to be in New Delhi. A special team Of Cyber Police Kashmir was deputed to New Delhi and with assistance of Delhi Police, the accused was arrested from Paharganj area of New Delhi.

School Teacher’s Killing: Kashmiri Pandits Hit Roads In Srinagar

Syed Mohammad Burhan

Srinagar: Kashmiri Pandits on Tuesday took to the streets in Srinagar to protest against the killing of a woman teacher by militants in Kulgam district.

Rajni Bala (36), who belonged to Samba district and was posted at a government school in Gopalpora Kulgam, was shot dead by militants outside her school.

After the news of her killing

spread, Kashmiri Pandits staged massive protests in Srinagar’s Batwara and Indhra Nagar area and blocked the main road.

The traffic remained disrupted for a few hours on the vital route.

The protestors demanded justice for the teacher and sought better safety arrangements from the government.

They also threatened to migrate to Jammu. “Such incidents have only shattered their dreams

of resettling permanently in the valley,” said Sunita, a woman protester at Indira Nagar.

“We were still mourning Rahul’s death when our female colleague was killed just outside the school.”

The protestors later dispersed peacefully.

It is pertinent to mention, Protests have escalated after rise in targeted killings of Kashmiri Pandits.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir Office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Division (North) Sopore

Sub: Extension of e-tender. Ref: 1. This office E-NIT No. PHE/MDNS/NIT/E-03 of 2022-23, issued under No. PHE/MDNS/DB/489-95, dated: 30-04-2022. 2. This office E-NIT No. PHE/MDNS/NIT/E-05 of 2022-23, issued under No. PHE/MDNS/DB/654-61, dated: 14-05-2022. Due to poor response, the above referred e-tender is hereby extended as under:

S.No.	Particulars	Dates
1.	Last date for online submission of bids	06-06-2022 (06:55 pm)
2	Date of online opening of tender	07-06-2022 (02:00 pm)

No.: PHE/MDNS/DB/989-91 Dated: 31-05-2022 DIPK-3073/22

Sd/- Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Division (North) Sopore

Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology of Kashmir Estates Wing, Main Campus Shalimar – 190 025

Notice Inviting e-Tender e-NIT No. (10) of 2022-23 Dated: 27.05.2022

For and on behalf of Vice-Chancellor, SKUAST (K), e-tenders (in single-cover system) are invited on percentage basis from approved and eligible Civil contractors whose cards are valid up to 31-03-2023 registered with State PWD, CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Govt. departments for the following work:-

S.No	Name of the work	Estimated Cost (in lacs)	Class of Contractor	Cost of Tender document	Time of completion
1.	Repairs and Renovation of the Office of Deputy Comptroller (Divisions) at Main Campus Shalimar SKUAST-K	02.00	D Class	500/-	15 days

a) Position of AAA: Accorded
b) Position of T.S : Sanctioned
c) Position of funds: Available

1. The Bidding document consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, set of terms and conditions and other details can be downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per following schedule:-

1.	Date of issue of Tender Notice	27.05.2022
2.	Date of start of downloading	27.05.2022
3.	Pre-bid meeting date	NA
4.	Bid submission start Date	27.05.2022
5.	Bid submission end date	10.06.2022
6.	Date & Time of opening of Technical bid (online)/	13.06.2022
7.	Date of opening of Financial bid of qualifying bidders (online)	14.06.2022

Further information can be had from the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Estates Officer/ Chief Engineer DIPK-NB-1344/22

No. Au/Estates/e-NIT(10)/104 Dated: 30. 05.2022

DIAL-EMMA

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

AIRPORTS SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311

RAILWAYS

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

HIGHWAY STATUS

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

HIJRI CALENDAR 1443

PRAYERS

FAJR	3: 39
ZUHR	12:28
ASR	5:27
Magrib	7:40
ISHA	9: 19

This Day In History

- 1922- Over 50,000 Fascists gather for a meeting in Bologna where Mussolini warns that he will lead a full-scale revolt against a government favoring 'anti-Fascist reaction'
- 1927- Peace Bridge between US & Canada opens
- 1941- British troops occupy Bagdad, Iraq
- 1943- Germany shoots down a civilian flight from Lisbon to London, all die
- 1947- Photosensitive glass developed
- 1948- Israel & Arabs agree to a cease fire
- 1949- 1st magazine on microfilm offered to subscribers (Newsweek)
- 1949-Microfilm copies of "Newsweek" magazine 1st offered
- 1970- Soyuz 9 launched into Earth orbit for 18 days
- 1972 - Iraq nationalizes Iraq Petroleum Company's (IPC) concession owned by British Petroleum,
- 1974 - Arab oil ministers decide to end most restrictions on exports of oil to the United States but continue embargo against the Netherlands, Portugal, South Africa, and Rhodesia
- 1976 - Great Britain and Iceland end the "cod war"
- 1978 - The first international applications under the Patent Cooperation Treaty are filed
- 1993 Connie Chung joins Dan Rather as anchors of CBS Evening News
- 1993 - Guatemala president Jorge Serrano overthrown by army
- 1998 - European Central Bank is founded in Brussels to define and execute the European Union's monetary policy
- 2000 - The Patent Law Treaty (PLT) is signed.
- 2009 - Air France Flight 447 crashes into the Atlantic Ocean off the coast of Brazil on a flight from Rio de Janeiro to Paris. All 228 passengers and crew were killed.

From KO Archives

All Project Info To Go Public From Today

Observer News Service

S RINAGAR: To bring transparency in the execution of development, schemes, Chief Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad has made it mandatory for all the departments to display information about works conspicuously from Friday.

The departments have been asked to display at prominent places at district, tehsil and block levels soon on painted walls or erected boards the detailed information indicating the name of the scheme, executing agency, estimated cost and date of commencement and completion of schemes for information of the general public.

Speaking to the district, tehsil and block level officers of Ladakh at two separate meetings at Leh and Kargil Thursday, Chief Minister said that while the monitoring of physical and financial progress of works by the officers is essential, the public based mechanism is also vital to make the monitoring fool-proof.

Azad said that government functionaries hold the key to progress, as such, ought to render service to the best of their capacity. "Not only public representatives but government functionaries are equally answerable to people", he said and called for coordinated approach in mitigating the difficulties of Public.

Azad said that the liberal funding from the centre has enabled us to expand the orbit of progress and development in the state. "Presently, massive infrastructure development in education, health, drinking water supply, irrigation, power, road communication and other sectors is in full swing. History has provided us golden opportunity to develop. We have to take best advantage and march towards the goal of prosperity", he added.

Over Rs. 15000 crore worth of development projects especially in power development, road connectivity, public health engineering, education and other sectors have been formulated with the central funding targeted to be completed in next three years, Chief Minister said, adding that administration should be fully pre-pared to shoulder this responsibility.

In order to sensitize the administration and gear it up to be able to spend huge amounts judiciously and complete projects in fixed timeframe, fast track personal interactive meetings with the officers at various levels in the districts have been held, Azad said.

(Kashmir Observer, 01 June, 2007)

KASHMIR
OBSERVER

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K O V I E W

UN’s Afghan report

United Nations report has said that a change in the name of the Al-Qaeda in the Indian Sub-continent (AQIS) magazine "suggests a re-focusing" of the terror group from Afghanistan to Kashmir. The 13th report of the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team discusses the Taliban and other associated individuals and entities constituting a threat to the peace, stability and security of Afghanistan was released on Saturday. The AQIS, the report said, has 180 to 400 fighters and they are from Bangladesh, India, Myanmar and Pakistan and are located in Ghazni, Helmand, Kandahar, Nimruz, Paktika and Zabul Provinces. But the global jihadi group AQIS is said to have for now been forced to adopt a less aggressive posture due to financial constraints. But the report warns that as with Al-Qaeda core, new circumstances in Afghanistan may allow the group to reorganise itself. The 2020 name change of the AQIS magazine from 'Nawa-i Afghan Jihad' to 'Nawa-e-Gazwah-e-Hind' suggests a shift away from Afghanistan to Kashmir. Similarly, Jaish-e-Mohammed and Lashkar-e-Taiba, the report says, are said to maintain their training camps in some provinces of Afghanistan and some of them are directly under the Taliban control.

In fact, the fears of militants turning their attention towards Kashmir grew in the wake of the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan in August 2021. This despite the fact that the Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid had last year assured that the group won't allow Afghan soil to be used against any other country. But such reassurances have far from satisfied the security agencies in India. There have also been noises to the effect among the militant groups that the waning militancy in Kashmir be revived. Al Qaeda in its statement following the Taliban victory had called for "liberation" of Kashmir.

There is no telling as yet how the shift in the regional situation would impact Kashmir. Over the last two and a half years, Kashmir has witnessed a relative decline not only in militancy but also in the influx of Pakistani militants. Pakistan, under what is believed to be pressure from the FATF has cracked down on the leaders of Kashmir centric militant groups like Lashkar and Jaish-e-Mohammad. Lashkar leaders like Hafiz Saeed and Zaki-ur-Rahman Lakhvi have been jailed. Similarly Jaish chief Masood Azhar and Hizbul Mujahideen supremo Syed Salahuddin have largely become conspicuous by their absence from the scene, more so, the former.

Would things change now? The opinion among security experts remains split over the possibility of this happening. But if this happens, it would confront security agencies in Kashmir with a renewed Kashmir challenge. As of now, everything is in the realm of speculation. The common refrain in Kashmir among the experts in the country is to wait and watch. However, recent spurt in violence across the Valley doesn't bode well for the near future.

OTHER OPINION

Fireproof

As metaphors go, a fireproof book is a bit on the nose. But then, in an age of censorship, consigning ideas to the flame (both literally and metaphorically) and scoring political points at the expense of artists, perhaps the sacrifice of subtlety was much needed. Nobel Laureate Margaret Atwood announced the release of an "unburnable" edition of arguably her most famous novel, The Handmaid's Tale (1985), over a YouTube video on May 23.

The Handmaid's Tale, set in a right-wing dystopia where women are used as breeding machines, paints a picture of a world where people do not have rights to their own bodies and sexuality. It has become topical once more with the challenge to women's right to choice in the US. Unfortunately and unsurprisingly, the book has been burnt, banned from school libraries in the US and beyond and protested against at various points. According to the publisher, Penguin Random House, the fireproof book is "designed to protect this vital story and stand as a powerful symbol against censorship".

There is a particular irony in the burning of books, the censorship of thought and the fear of slogans. Ideas, as the anarchist V remarked (in V for Vendetta), are bulletproof. Yet, they are not invincible. Their kryptonite is a counter-argument, a well-thought-out riposte, an act of engaged criticism. But those that most vehemently oppose certain people and books usually do not engage with either. Burning a book does nothing — it is a wanton act of destruction. Reading a book expands your horizons, even if it says something that is deeply offensive to your sensibilities. A fireproof book, then, is an act of advanced semiotics, a message to those who believe that violence and censorship are acceptable ways to oppose those you disagree with. Another irony: This metaphor is likely to be one more idea book burners refuse to engage with.

Indian Express



KAUSHIK BASU

Global agreements and buffers to mitigate food crises may seem impossible. But a similar arrangement at the national level for a large country like India also was thought to be out of reach until it happened. Likewise, large republics like the United States had seemed impossible until the US Constitution was ratified. The fact that a successful global or regional buffer system or surplus-sharing agreement has never existed is not a reason to give up hope

ITHACA – Food shortages are beginning to cast a shadow over the world. One long-term factor is the warming of our planet, which has slowly destroyed agricultural land. But the proximate cause of greatest concern is the war in Ukraine and Russian President Vladimir Putin's Black Sea blockade, which is preventing Ukrainian grain and fertilizers from leaving the port of Odessa.

This is an extremely urgent problem, and policymakers are rightly scrambling to solve it. But there is also a generic problem, beyond the immediate emergency, that needs to be understood if we are to overcome the current food crisis. It arises from our failure to keep pace with the march of economic globalization by implementing global policy and conventions.

Since late 2019, the world has been in relentless crisis mode as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, supply-chain disruptions, and now Putin's war of aggression against Ukraine. This train of crises has naturally left all concerned citizens rushing to put out one fire after another. But, if we spend all our resources fighting fires, we will probably fail to produce innovative flame-resistant institutions. In this spirit, I want to step back from our immediate concerns, grave as they are, to address their underlying causes.

Some of these causes are clearly visible, starting with the Russian blockade around Ukraine. Until 2021, Ukraine exported roughly 17 million tons of wheat annually, or 8.5% of the world's total. But it is not immediately clear why this should lead to such a big increase in wheat prices, and to the dangers of global food shortages and famine that we are seeing today. After all, most countries have some buffer stocks and should be able to absorb this shock.

The answer lies in the behavioral response of national and local governments and even of

individuals. When global policy coordination is poor, the natural reaction to news of some shortage is to hoard supplies. We know this from studies such as Amartya Sen's classic work on the 1943 Bengal Famine, and we see it happening now.

While Ukraine has halted its wheat exports because it had no option, other countries have chosen to stop or curtail shipments. India, for example, announced a virtual ban on wheat exports on May 14. And it is not alone; 26 countries have limited their wheat exports to ensure that they have sufficient supplies for their own citizens. All this is causing global wheat prices to rise precipitously. India's announcement alone triggered a 6% price increase.

A similar phenomenon occurs at the household level. Once fear of shortages sets in, people stock up on more food than they immediately need in order to guard against a full-blown crisis. Yet, these small actions by millions of people, along with local and national government policies, can end up causing just that.

This is not unique to food. We have seen the same thing happen with vaccines: Countries acquire far more doses than they need in order to guard against the possibility of a future shortage. Such hoarding explains some of the glaring global inequities in access to COVID-19 vaccines.

If such responses were inevitable, we would have to treat them like the law of gravity, which is not something we can do anything about. But there is much we can do through collective action to overcome shortages that the market cannot fix. A system of global buffers or an international agreement that countries with a surplus must help others during times of scarcity would go a long way toward solving much of the problem. Just like the introduction of deposit insurance put an end to bank runs, most people would stop hoarding once they

had confidence that this system worked, and that in itself would help avert a crisis.

If this sounds like wishful thinking, consider what happened in India, a country with a history of food shortages and hoarding. Longstanding efforts to establish a national public food distribution system resulted in a major improvement in 1992 and culminated in the 2013 National Food Security Act. With a sophisticated system of minimal food guarantees in place for three decades, the psychology of hoarding at the household level has diminished, which in turn has diminished the need to hoard.

Global agreements and buffers to mitigate food crises may seem impossible. But a similar arrangement at the national level for a large country like India also was thought to be out of reach until it happened. Likewise, large republics like the United States had seemed impossible until the US Constitution was ratified. The fact that a successful global or regional buffer system or surplus-sharing agreement has never existed is not a reason to give up hope.

This argument carries over from food to other economic and social domains. Despite recent hiccups, the march of globalization will not end, so we must try to establish minimal global conventions and agreements to prevent it from trampling the most vulnerable.

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

The author is a former chief economist of the World Bank and chief economic adviser to the Government of India, is Professor of Economics at Cornell University and a non-resident senior fellow at the Brookings Institution. The article was originally published by Project Syndicate



OBSERVER
MAIL

All letters intended for publication must include the writer's name and address, even if a pseudonym is used. Letters are edited as clarity, space and accuracy of expression require. Our publishing a letter does not mean we agree with everything or even anything in it. -EDITOR

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Addressing Obesity

IT is well known that a large population of the country is battling obesity, the root of all diseases, due to which diseases like diabetes, thyroid, and high blood pressure have increased not only among adults, but also in adolescents and children. The good thing is that like the epidemic, now the government has also become alert about the increasing obesity. NITI Aayog, the country's policy-making body, has recommended to identify the major factors of its growth such as sugar, salt and fat-rich foods and increase the excise duty on these foods to make citizens free from obesity. In this episode, it has been said to take steps like 'front of the pack labeling' on products, so that people can be warned about the danger of obesity. The purpose is that people should be careful while choosing food items and they should know what is dangerous for their health. The report of the Research Institute of NITI Aayog for the

year 2021-2022 warns that the problem of overweight and obesity among children, adolescents and women is increasing continuously in the country. NITI Aayog is taking steps in this direction in collaboration with the country's Institute of Economic Development and the Public Health Organization of India. In fact, Indian food has traditionally been a trend of namkeen, chips, bhujia, etc., but in recent years, in the name of snacks, there has been an increase in the popularity of such foods which are injurious to health. It should be a matter of our concern that according to the National Family Health Survey, the number of women suffering from obesity in the country has gone up to 24 percent, while the figure for men is 22.9%. In such a situation, the need of the hour should be said that the government should take steps in this direction. Undoubtedly, obesity is the root of all diseases and the Indian medical system feels the pressure due

to the diseases caused by it.

Actually, due to change in urban lifestyle and eating habits, the problem of obesity has become worrying. Talks continued about this problem, but no serious initiative was seen in this direction. Due to the market gimmicks, the use of junk food and packaged food items increased in the country. In this, the producers searched the market but did not care about the health of the common man. The irony was also that there was mention of factors that increase obesity, but serious efforts were not seen to stop them. The steps taken to stop them were only symbolic. The market is full of such foods which are tempting in taste, but are heavy on health. They have a long-term harmful effect on health, due to which obesity increases and under its guise serious diseases ranging from diabetes to heart disease start growing. Which over time takes a frightening form due to neglect. Undoubtedly, the need

of the hour is to strictly regulate the factors causing obesity. People should know that what they are consuming affects their health. In fact, due to the change in eating habits, the problem of obesity in developed countries has started spreading rapidly in India too. In India, such a problem assumes a formidable form because people are not conscious in time. We have failed to create awareness among the general public about obesity. We do not care when the factors that increase obesity have become a part of our daily life. Also which foods are really fattening. When the body becomes a home of deadly diseases due to such carelessness, the person does not even realize it. But while taxing such food items, keep in mind that the lives of common and poor people are not affected. Along with this, there is also a need to run an awareness campaign against obesity in the country.

Vijay Garg
vkmalout@gmail.com

Amarnath Shrine Board Has Decided To Go For Online Booking Of Chopper Service For Yatra, HC Told

Agenceis

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court was informed on Tuesday that the Amarnathji Shrine Board has decided to do sale of tickets of helicopter services from Jammu and Kashmir online for the yatra.

A bench of Acting Chief Justice Vipin Sanghi and Justice Sachin Datta disposed of a plea seeking direction to the board to adopt online system for booking and sale of tickets

of helicopter services from Jammu and Kashmir, especially for old, ailing and disabled pilgrims, for the yatra.

The bench disposed of the plea after the petitioner organisation Indian Council of Legal Aid's general secretary and advocate R K Saini submitted that it has no grievance with the system put in place and now nothing survives in the petition. The board's submission was made in a counter affidavit

filed in pursuance to the high court's May 23 order when notice was issued on the petition.

The petition had submitted that the refusal of Centre and the shrine board to introduce the online system for booking and sale of all tickets of helicopter services from Jammu and Srinagar for Amarnath yatra, is resulting into hoarding and black marketing of tickets leading to the misery for thousands of genuine and

needy pilgrims.

It had termed it as wholly arbitrary, discriminatory, irrational, unwarranted and unjust, and against public interest.

The petition, through lawyer Avadh Kaushik, said that according to a news report, it is the priority of the Narendra Modi government that the pilgrims coming for the Amarnath yatra should have hassle free darshan and they should not face any problems.

Swachh Bharat Urban Abhiyan. Today, 100% of waste is being collected from every household and by November this year, we will also be successful in processing 60 to 70 % of the waste. Further, an amount of Rs 648 crore has been sanctioned for waste management in all 78 urban local bodies," he added.

Speaking on the achievements registered under Jal Jeevan Mission, the LG, according to the spokesperson said the UT Government is working on a mission mode to achieve the ambitious goal of 100% piped water (Har Ghar Nal se Jal).

"We have achieved 57.82% household coverage achieved so far, which is much higher than the national average of 49.23%. Today we have succeeded in providing tap water connection to 10.61 lakh households. Apart from two districts- Ganderbal and Srinagar, all rural schools, Anganwadi centers and hospitals have also been connected with tap water connections," the LG said.

"J&K has secured 8th position in Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) scheme implementation. Similarly, the UT has secured second rank in the list of Union Territories and Small States under the Prime Minister's SVANidhi Program. Under the scheme, the government is providing assistance to 24,000 street vendors and to-date, loan has been disbursed to 14,078 beneficiaries," he added.

The spokesperson said that the LG also stated that J&K has also improved the ranking under MUDRA Yojana which has enabled enable small traders to start new businesses or to expand the existing ones.

"Altogether more than 2.62 lakh accounts have been opened, and Rs 5696 crore has been disbursed to small and micro-entrepreneurs under the scheme. Under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana, more than 5.47 lakh metric tonnes of food grains have been distributed till last month," Sinha said.

"Sectors like Health, Infrastructure, Road Connectivity and Industries have witnessed a massive transformation in the last three years," he added.

The LG, according to the spokesperson said that J&K has now become one of the leading States/UTs in the healthcare sector and medical education. He said that two AIIMS, two cancer institutes, seven new medical colleges, 15 new nursing colleges, and thousands of health and wellness centers, besides universal health insurance coverage for up to Rs 5 lakh under Ayushman Bharat-SEHAT without any discrimination have ensured Affordable and accessible healthcare to all segments of society of J&K.

"At present 69.60 lakh beneficiaries are registered under Ayushman Bharat-SEHAT and about 76% of the families have at least one beneficiary registered," the LG said.

"Earlier, only six km of road was constructed daily in Jammu and Kashmir, but today we are building 20 km of road every day. J&K has improved its ranking to fourth position in the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana," he added.

The LG, he said, also stated that Jammu & Kashmir and its people were deprived of the development for seven decades.

"Now, the Constitutional provisions to provide equal rights to common people are being implemented on the ground," he said.

"We have kept the aspirations of people at the heart of government policies and schemes, and we are committed to ensure financial inclusion and that the last man in the queue receives equal opportunity. Under PM's guidance, our aim is to make development a powerful people's movement in J&K," he added.

Highlighting the progress achieved in various welfare schemes, the LG, as per the spokesperson said that the government machinery at all levels is working with greater dedication and commitment.

"The speed of execution of projects and saturation of schemes has increased five times as compared to what the government used to achieve earlier," the LG said.

"J&K has performed better in Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana – Rural and Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana – Urban. Farmer-centric reforms introduced by the government in the last three years have increased the income of the farmers of J&K manifold. The UT of J&K is now among the top five States/UTs in terms of farmers' income with a monthly income of Rs 18,918 per farmer. We have also achieved notable success in our endeavour to end malnutrition in Jammu and Kashmir," he added.

Similarly, the LG said that 2.7 lakh beneficiaries were covered under Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana till last financial year and more than Rs 107 crores have been distributed among them.

"In the current financial year till April 2022, 5458 beneficiaries were linked to the Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana and an amount of Rs 2 crore 76 lakh has been directly transferred to their account," Sinha said.

"Rural sanitation coverage in Jammu and Kashmir is another sector where, as a result of the efforts of the central government, we have registered remarkable progress with 100% saturation. Jammu and Kashmir has performed well in the

with the menace of corruption," the LG said.

"Grievance redressal and preventive mechanism have added a new dimension to the vigilance work to curb malpractices. Initiatives like Satark Nagrik application and Departmental Vigilance Officers portal are playing a key role in the effective and right dissemination of information to all stakeholders, and have led to better vigilance work," he added.

The LG, according to the spokesperson also said that the vigilance clearance has become online in which GAD/ ACB has issued more than 30,000 vigilance clearances since June, 2021.

He said that the LG also urged the Anti Corruption Bureau and General Administration Department to adopt anti-corruption measures and preventive actions using the latest technologies, and work in collaboration to set new benchmarks in curbing corrupt practices.

Principal Secretary to the Government, GAD, Manoj Kumar Diwedi, Director General of police (DCP) Dilbag Singh and Director, ACB, Anand Jain also spoke on the occasion.

Constructed at a cost of Rs 9.04 crores, the work on the building was completed in a short span of 23 months. The infrastructure comprises of 39 rooms including Director's Chamber in addition to Conferencing Hall with AV facilities, waiting Lounge, VIP Lounge, Dining Hall, Help Desk, Canteen, two meeting halls and a common kitchen.

ED Grills Dr Farooq

the case. The 84-year-old three-time chief minister of the erstwhile Jammu and Kashmir state had recorded his statement in the same case in 2019, officials said.

The National Conference said the veteran leader would continue to cooperate with the authorities like he has done in the past.

Abdullah was JKCA president from 2001 to 2012 and the scam being probed by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and the ED is about alleged financial misappropriation between 2004 and 2009.

The ED has attached properties worth over Rs 21 crore already. This includes Rs 11.86 crore of immovable assets of Abdullah.

The ED claimed its probe so far has "revealed that Ahsan Ahmad Mirza in connivance with other office bearers of the JKCA, had misappropriated JKCA funds to the tune of Rs 51.90 crore and utilised proceeds of crime for settling his personal and business liabilities".

It initiated the money laundering probe against the JKCA office bearers on the basis of a case registered at the Rammunshi Bagh Police Station in Srinagar.

The case was later transferred to the CBI on the high court's directions.

The CBI has filed a charge sheet in the case against the former JKCA office bearers for misappropriation of funds to the tune of Rs 43.69 crore.

CPWD Engineers

a mechanism to prevent such incidents in the future".

On May 26, the engineers' body wrote to the J&K LG and alleged that the chief executive officer of Amarnath Shrine Board misbehaved with two of their engineers and "illegally detained them for 12 hours".

"Followed by a heated argument at work, the Amarnath Shrine Board CEO directed the SSP of Ramban district to illegally detain two of our engineers. This is blatant misuse of power by an administrative officer," said Rajesh Agarwal, secretary of the association.

As per the memorandum, an altercation took place between the CEO and two CPWD engineers during an inspection at a project site. The association alleged that the detention was ordered on the pretext of not "completing petty works".

Kashmir Essential

government has been introduced for the first time in Jammu and Kashmir in seventy years and it will not be long before people get to see and feel the benefits of such a system.

Singh, he said, also deliberated on different centrally sponsors schemes and different initiatives launched by the Modi Government to ensure equitable development of people of Jammu and Kashmir, something which they had been deprived of for long for no fault of theirs.

According to the spokesperson, the Minister also distributed benefits under Mudra, PM Svanidhi, Ayushman Bharat, PMAY-G and various agriculture and horticulture related schemes and distributed various logistics among them.

He said the event was also addressed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi through virtual mode from Shimla.

"The PM also credited Rs 21 thousand crore in farmers' accounts through DBT mode on the occasion," he added.

As per the spokesperson, Singh laid e-foundation of different development projects, and e-inaugurated

District Bilingual Website, and OPD Block, Operation Theatre besides additional accommodation for schools.

The Minister, he said, also announced to identify and develop some villages in the district as solar villages.

"While concluding, the Minister applauded efforts of District Administration Budgam for the steps and initiatives taken for overall development of the district. The Minister also hailed the sincere coordination and joint synergy between District Administration and elected representatives including DDCs, BDCs and PRI workers of the district," he added.

Dr Farooq Calls

and are claiming high and tall that the peace has been achieved," he said, in Udhampur after offering condolences to National Panthers Party (NPP) chief, Bhim Shingh, who passed away today.

"Everyone wants safety and security. There is a need to find means and ways to curb the killings in Jammu and Kashmir. The government should call an All Party meeting, talk to the leaders to bring a solution to the prevailing situation. The situation can't be dealt with by forces and police," he said, adding that there is a need to win the hearts so that the people will come out from the present nuisance.

"If tomorrow the political leaders are killed, where is security for them," he asked.

About the forthcoming Amarnath Yatra, Dr Abdullah said that if any untoward incident takes places on the pilgrims, the whole country will have to bear the consequences, thus the government needs to stay very alert in this regard—(KNO)

Haj Pilgrims Asked

to deposit the Haj arrangement dues which includes mandatory Insurance Premium, Transport charges from Haj House to Airport and other handling charges to be incurred by JK Haj Committee as per the details given below through J&K Bank in Account No:1206 0405 0000 5039.

In this regard, the pilgrims are informed that the pay-in-slip can also be downloaded from www.jkshc.org.

Meanwhile, the Haj pilgrims of Jammu / Ladakh Division who have opted Srinagar Embarkation Point shall have to deposit additional charges on account of boarding for their stay at Haj House, Srinagar. The concerned pilgrims are required to deposit the receipt (pay-in-slips) of the amount at the office of respective Deputy Commissioners at the time of collection of passports and other travel documents.

Pilgrims who do not want to avail boarding facility at Haj House, Srinagar shall pay Rs.850/- per pilgrim.

Pilgrims belonging to Kashmir Division who want to avail the boarding facility at Haj House, Srinagar for one night shall have to pay Rs.1250/- (Rs.850/- + Rs.400/-) per pilgrim.

Pilgrims of Jammu / Ladakh Division who have opted Srinagar Embarkation Point shall have to pay Rs.2100/- per pilgrim as they have to report Haj House, Bemina 60 hours prior to their departure.

Pilgrims travelling from Delhi Embarkation Point shall have to pay Rs.200/- only per Pilgrim as Insurance Premium / Administrative.

J&K Reports Single

No Covid-related fatality was reported in the last 24 hours, officials said.

There were 51 confirmed cases of mucormycosis (black fungus), they added.

CRPF Man Allegedly

said the body will be sent to his village after completion of legal formalities—(KNO)

Man Booked For

Lord Shiva and Shivlings on social media platforms with the intention to hurt the religious sentiments of Hindus, police said.

The act amounts to promoting enmity between two communities, they added.

A case has been registered on the basis of the complaint, police said.

2 Persons Killed

Anant Ram of Lower Muthi, Jammu and another whose identification was being established died on the spot.

Six persons were injured and were shifted to District hospital Kishtwar.

They have been identified as Rakesh Kumar (38) son of Girdhari Lal of Rajpura Jammu, Vipul Khajuria (23) son of Sashi Bhushan of Subash nagar Jammu, Suraj Parkash (54) son of Kola Ram of Dhab Sudan Jammu, Krishan Lal (64) son of Girdhari Lal of Peermitha Jammu, Mewa Ram (45) son of Jagu Ram of Mishriwala Jammu and Vijay Sharma (28) son of Suraj Parkashof Dhab Sudan Kanachack. (GNS)

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

School Teacher

around 10:30 am Tuesday, when unidentified militants opened fire from close range at 36-year-old Rajni Bala near the Government High School Gopalpora, where she was posted, a police spokesperson said.

Bala, who received multiple gunshot injuries in the attack, was removed to the district hospital, Kulgam by her colleagues for treatment. However, before the doctors could operate upon her, she succumbed to her injuries.

According to officials, Bala was putting up at Chawalgam village of the district. She is the second non-Muslim government employee to be killed this month.

Earlier on May 12, Rahul Bhat, a clerk at the Tehsil office Chadoora was shot dead by militants.

Last Wednesday, Kashmiri TV actor Amreen Bhat was killed by militants in the same area (Chadoora), while her 10-year-old nephew was injured in the attack.

According to the reports, soon after the attack on Bala, police and army launched a cordon and search operation in the area to nab the attackers. The joint team also questioned villagers about the identity of the assailants.

"Police have registered a case under relevant sections of law and initiated investigation. Officers continue to work to establish the full circumstances of the terror crime and terrorists involved in this gruesome terror crime will be soon identified and neutralized. The whole area has been cordoned off with the help of reinforcement and search in the area is going on," police spokesperson said.

Bala's killing also evoked strong condemnation from political parties and set off protests as well by the Kashmiri Pandit employees recruited under the PM's special package.

"Very sad. This is yet another targeted killing in a long list of recent attacks directed at unarmed civilians. Words of condemnation & condolence ring hollow as do the assurances of the government that they will not rest till situation normalises. May the deceased rest in peace," National Conference vice-president Omar Abdullah tweeted.

"Rajni was from Samba District of Jammu province. A government teacher working in Kulgam area of South Kashmir, she lost her life in a despicable targeted attack. My heart goes out to her husband Raj Kumar & the rest of her family. Another home irreparably damaged by violence," he added.

PDP president Mehbooba Mufti said despite the Centre's claims of normalcy in Kashmir, targeted killings were on the rise.

"Despite GOIs fake claims about Kashmir being normal its obvious that targeted civilian killings are on the rise & a deep cause of concern (sic). Condemn this act of cowardice which sadly plays into the vicious anti Muslim narrative spun by BJP," she tweeted.

Sajad Lone also condemned the killing, saying cowardice has yet again plummeted to shameless depths.

"A teacher, an innocent woman hailing from Samba, has been shot dead in Kulgam. May her soul rest in peace," he said.

Veteran Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad also condemned the attack.

"I am pained to learn about the heart wrenching incidents of targeted killing of two women in Kashmir within one week, Amreen Bhat and Rajani Bala. I strongly condemn the killing of Rajani Bala," Azad tweeted.

"I urge the administration to take stringent measures to safeguard the lives of innocent civilians. I express my sympathies with the bereaved families," he added.

CPI (M) leader M Y Tarigami termed the killing of the teacher tragic and unfortunate .

This is yet another addition to the long list of civilian killings. There seems to be no end to the bloodletting. The administration must post these employees in safer places and provide them with secure accommodations," he said.

LG Promises

Rajni Bala, a teacher at the Government High School, Gopalpora, Kulgam was shot dead near her school on Tuesday morning.

"Terrorist attack on a school teacher Rajni Bala is the most reprehensible act. My deepest condolences to the bereaved family. Terrorists and their sympathisers will be given unforgettable response

for dastardly attack," the office of LG tweeted.

KP Employees

from the community hit the streets at various places to protest against the killing of a lady teacher by militants in Kulgam district.

We have decided that if the government did not take any concrete steps for us (safety) within 24 hours, there will be mass migration again, one of the protestors said here.

He said the target killing of Kashmiri Pandits is continuing and the community is now tired of making appeals to the government.

We should be relocated so that we can be saved. Our delegation had met the LG earlier and we had asked him to save us. We are asking for temporary relocation for two to three years till situation in the valley returns to normal. It is the same time frame put by IGP Kashmir for making Kashmir militancy free, he added.

A handful of KP employees assembled at the Ghanta Ghar (Clock tower) at Lal Chowk here to protest against the killing, the officials said.

Another group of employees assembled at Batwara in Sonawar area of the city and raised slogans against the union territory administration for its failure to ensure foolproof security for employees of Hindu communities.

The protestors, mostly women, raised slogans like Administration hai hai (down with administration), minorities ko jeenay do' (let the minorities live) and We want justice .

In South Kashmir Qazigund town, the KP employees blocked one tube of the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway to protest against the killing of Rajni Bala inside a school at Gopalpora in Kulgam district on Tuesday.

The protestors appealed to the Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah to intervene in the matter to ensure security of the Kashmiri Pandit minorities.

Government has failed completely in providing security for the KPs.

Rahul Bhat was killed inside a district (Tehsil) office on May 12 and today our sister Rajni Bala was shot dead inside the school. We appeal to the PM, HM and LG to intervene in the matter. Kashmiri Pandits are on roads now, there is no hope of survival, one of the protestors said.

Terrorism Will Not

Jaishankar told reporters after attending Garib Kalyan Sammelan in Vadodara.

Militants on Tuesday shot dead Kashmiri Pandit teacher Rajni Bala (36) in the Kulgam district, police said.

Bala sustained injuries when militants fired at her in the Gopalpora area of Kulgam where she was posted as a teacher. She was rushed to a nearby hospital, where doctors declared her dead on arrival, officials had said.

"We will definitely take necessary steps against terrorism. Our battle against terrorism will continue and we are confident that we will be successful," said the external affairs minister.

Before attending the event, Jaishankar, who was on a two-day visit to Vadodara city beginning Monday, visited Police Bhavan and interacted with women police personnel of "She Team"- a special cell to address complaints and distress calls by women.

"Visited Vadodara city Police Bhavan and met the highly motivated She Team. A great example of gender sensitive and socially caring policing" Jaishankar tweeted.

Two Militants

motivation Mohd Shafi Dar of Wagad Tral had joined militant ranks, before being killed in an operation in Kulgam on December 29 last year.

"Incriminating materials, arms & ammunition including 02 AK-47 rifles have been recovered from the site of encounter. All the recovered materials have been taken into case records for further investigation," he said.

"In this regard, a case under relevant sections of law has been registered and investigation has been initiated. People are requested to cooperate with Police till the area at encounter site is completely sanitized and cleared of all the explosive materials, if any," he added.

Prof Bhim Singh

his life for the welfare of Jammu and Kashmir. He was very well read and scholarly. I will always recall my

DAK Seeks Ban On Tobacco To Prevent Cancer

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: On world No tobacco day, Doctors Association Kashmir (DAK) on Tuesday has sought complete ban on tobacco products in Kashmir.

"That would prevent people from cancer," said DAK President Dr Nisar ul Hassan.

Dr Hassan said Jammu and Kashmir (JK) has witnessed 39,041 cases of cancer in the last 3 years with lung cancer being most prevalent due to high rates of smoking. International researches have shown that smoking is linked to about 90 percent of lung cancer cases.

After lung cancer, foodpipe, stomach and colon are the other types of cancer that have been found to have high prevalence and smoking is a big factor.

"Not only does smoking cause cancer, but it also increases the risk of dying from heart attack and stroke, the two leading causes of death and disability in the valley," he said.

"Smoking is a gateway for drug abuse which has reached

to unprecedented levels in Kashmir," he added.

The DAK President said JK is emerging as the smoking capital of North India as JK's cigarette consumption is almost double the nationwide prevalence.

According to Global Tobacco Survey (2016-17) 20.8 percent of JK people smoke, against the national average of 10.7 percent. "One reason that is aiding this huge prevalence is because tobacco use, especially cigarette smoking is socially acceptable in Kashmir," he said.

"Another reason for increased rates of smoking is the alarming levels of stress among people in Kashmir," said Dr Nisar.

When people experience stress, they tend to manage the unpleasant feeling by resorting to the use of substances such as tobacco.

"The prime reason for increased use of tobacco in Kashmir is its availability," he said adding cigarettes and other tobacco products are freely available in Kashmir and can be purchased by anyone, whatever the age.

PHDCCI Delegation Calls On LG



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: A delegation of PHD Chamber of Commerce & Industry on Tuesday called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha here at Raj Bhawan.

The delegation headed by Pradeep Multani, President PHDCCI lauded the Lt Governor-led UT Government for addressing the concerns of the business community and taking various initiatives for industrial development in the UT.

The delegation further submitted a representation to the Lt Governor seeking support measures for the economic development of J&K pertaining to Ease of Doing Business and implementation of Business Action Reforms plan, extension of VAT amnesty, review

of Srinagar Master Plan, Ease in banking services, infrastructure projects, support to existing manufacturing and service sector, extension of emergency credit line guarantee scheme to all sectors, Special Economic Zone, etc.

The Lt Governor while interacting with the members of the delegation assured them that all their issues and demands would be addressed on merit.

UT Government is taking various breakthrough initiatives for furthering the economic growth and holistic development of Jammu & Kashmir, he said.

We are committed to strengthen the industrial & business ecosystem in a manner that the benefits percolate to all sections of the society, added the Lt Governor.

Haj Pilgrimage Priority Of Government: Bidhuri

Inspects Residential Accommodation, Allied Facilities At Haj House

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Commissioner Secretary, Haj and Auqaf, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri Tuesday said that Haj pilgrimage is important and priority for the Government and asked the Haj Committee of J&K to ensure that adequate facilities are made available to the pilgrims, selected for this year, during their departure to Saudi Arabia.

The Commissioner Secretary directed the Chief Executive Officer of Haj Committee to install signage, hoarding of Dos and Don'ts well in advance besides ensuring proper cleanliness, hygiene and sanitation in and around the Haj House Complex including the residential areas.

These directions were issued by the Officer while visiting the

Haj House here in Bemina and reviewing the arrangements put in place by the administration for smooth conduct of the Haj-2022.

Special Secretary Revenue, K K Sidha and Under Secretary Revenue Mushtaq Ahmad Bhat accompanied the Commissioner Secretary during the visit.

Kumar inspected the residential complex, departure hall, vaccination room, health centre and instructed the concerned authorities to mobilize all men and machinery for better conduct of Haj departure. He asked the concerned officers to work in close coordination with line departments and keep an adequate number of volunteers available in all areas like reception, check-in point, vaccination, foreign exchange, bus boarding places and help desk areas.

Teacher's Killing Triggers Protests In Jammu



KASHMIRI PANDIT EMPLOYEES staged a protest in Sonawar area of Srinagar on Tuesday against the killing of a schoolteacher in Kulgam.

KO PHOTO, ABID BHAT

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Protests against the killing of a Hindu schoolteacher in Kulgam district rocked several parts of Jammu city on Tuesday, with protesters burning an effigy of the administration and raising slogans against Pakistan.

Terming the killing a "cowardly act", the protesters said assurances given by the Centre and the Jammu and Kashmir administration to ensure the safety of minorities in the Valley have proved to be false.

Some even demanded that members of the minority community be provided arms licences to enable them to possess weapons for their protection.

Rajni Bala (36), who belonged to Samba district and was posted at a government school in Gopalpora, was shot in the head by militants earlier in the day. She succumbed to her injuries at a hospital, according to police.

Kashmiri Pandits took out a rally in the Durga Nagar area here to protest Bala's killing and the administration's "total failure" to protect them. They also raised slogans against Pakistan.

"There have been 22 killings of Hindus by terrorists in the Valley and over 14 people have been injured. Four temples have been attacked. This is an undeclared assault on minorities in Kashmir and the government is

saying that the situation is normal," Kashmiri Pandit leader Vinood Tickoo said.

The Dogra Front also took out a protest rally in the city.

Two hundred Bajrang Dal activists also held a protest here against Bala's killing.

They raised slogans against the Jammu and Kashmir administration for failing to protect government employees belonging to the minority community. They blocked a road for an hour and burnt an effigy of the administration.

The protesters also raised slogans against Pakistan.

"The government should grant us arms licenses, we will fight in Kashmir. Minority Hindu employees serving in the Muslim-majority Kashmir Valley should also be given weapons for their personal protection," Jammu president of Bajrang Dal Rakesh Kumar told reporters.

Shiv Sena activists led by the party's Jammu and Kashmir unit president Manish Sahni also held a protest against Bala's killing.

At a press conference held at the Shiv Sena's office here, Sahni said the killing of innocent people is intolerable.

The "heinous acts" of terrorists are increasing day by day. All the assurances of security given by the central and state

governments are proving to be completely false, he said.

Sahni demanded that people be granted arms licenses to be able to fight militancy in the Kashmir Valley.

Licensed weapons in the hands of people is the only way for them to protect themselves and their families, he added.

Sahni said the targeted killings in Kashmir have created panic among the minorities as well as the majority community.

Activists of Mission Statehood Jammu and Kashmir also held a protest at the Janipur High Court road and blocked traffic.

They raised anti-Pakistan slogans and demanded that all government employees from the minority community be transferred to Jammu from Kashmir.

Mission Statehood Jammu and Kashmir chief Sunil Dimple appealed to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah to stop the bloodshed and targeted killings of innocents in Kashmir.

Bala's is the second killing of a non-Muslim government employee in May. On May 12, Rahul Bhat, a clerk, was shot dead inside the tehsildar's office in Budgam district's Chadoora.

This is also the seventh targeted killing in Kashmir this month. While three of the victims were off-duty policemen, four were civilians.

Nationalism BJP's 'Trojan Horse' To Conceal Fascism: PDP

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: Nationalism is the BJP's "trojan horse" to conceal its fascism, Hindutva and communalism, and it wants the people to wave the saffron flag instead of the tri-colour, the PDP has alleged in the June issue of its monthly party newsletter 'Speak Up'.

It also said that in the garb of peace and development, the BJP's "sinister designs" included disempowerment of the people of Jammu and Kashmir and a forced demographic change.

"Make no mistake, it is not the national flag that BJP wants you to wave, it's the saffron flag. Nationalism is BJP's trojan horse and hiding inside are fascism, Hindutva and communalism," the Peoples Democratic Party said.

It said none of this should come as a surprise because a country that "conflates Hindutva with nationalism is doomed to be led by a conman masquerading as a messiah".

The Hindutva BJP baits people with is so deeply enmeshed in rabid bigotry and

ritualism that it has nothing to do with Hinduism, the PDP newsletter read.

"It's just good old-fashioned fascism repackaged in saffron. Recently, a BJP leader said that that Muslims should be set ablaze just as Hindus burn Ravan. Actually, it was Lord Rama who killed Ravan and he shunned every form of discrimination, embracing all those who came his way including a humble kevat," it added.

The PDP said another trojan horse in computer language, it is a malware that downloads onto a system disguised as a legitimate program was forced upon the people of Jammu and Kashmir after the abrogation of Article 370.

"Hidden in the garb of peace and development are BJP's sinister designs such as disempowerment of our people, forced demographic change, unemployment, pillaging our land, resources and jobs with agencies breathing down our neck.

"In other news, three government employees, including a Kashmir University professor, were sacked for links with sep-

arartists and militancy-related activities. To put it simply, if you don't espouse BJP's brand of patriotism you are by default anti-national," it said.

The PDP accused the BJP of weaponising the pain of Kashmiri Pandits but when it suits their agenda, "Kashmiri Pandits get tear-gassed by the police for protesting the killing of Rahul Bhat".

"Our party president Mehbooba Mufti was put under house-arrest when she tried to visit the Pandits that protested because a Muslim leader visiting Kashmiri Pandits doesn't fit BJP's ugly communal narrative," it added.

The PDP said fringe elements have replaced the mainstream that has been "criminalised" for its belief in the Indian Constitution.

"Despite BJP's tall claims of peace and normalcy, the spate of killings continues. Twenty-year-old Shoaib Ganie lost his life to what IGP Vijay Kumar called a 'chance encounter'. Off late, these so called chance encounters are becoming more and more frequent leaving people scared for their lives," the party said.

Secretary Mining Reviews Working Of J&K Minerals Corporation

Observer News Service

JAMMU: Secretary Mining Department, Amit Sharma on Tuesday convened a maiden review meeting on working of J&K Minerals Corporation.

The meeting was attended by Managing Director J&K Minerals Corporation, Suresh Kumar Koul, Director Finance Mining Department and Additional Secretary Mining Department, Arun Kotwal.

Amit Sharma said that J&K Minerals is doing commendable work over the last few years especially regarding extraction of coal from Kalakote Mines and gypsum from Parlanka Mines which has raised good income for the Corporation besides helping to clear lot of pending dues for employees of the Corporation.

It was informed during the

meeting that J&K Minerals Corporation is actively extracting precious gem Sapphire from Padder (Kishtwar hills) during activity season spanning over 3-4 months during summers every year.

Secretary directed the officers to organise a grand Global Auction event for Sapphire sale so that this rare gem discovered on the hills of J&K can fetch best sale proceeds through it.

GM J&K Minerals requested for allotment of few more Minor Mineral Blocks by the government as per last board meeting decision which can help in adjusting Kalakote Coal Mine workers in such blocks, as the work of mining has reduced substantially in Coal Mines due to lot of coal extraction taking place continuously over the last few years.

St. Soldier Group of Institutions To Provide Free Education To SC, ST Students From J&K



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: North India's Leading Education Provider Group St. Soldier Group of Institutions, Jalandhar on Tuesday announced to offer free admissions to the students belonging to the scheduled cast and scheduled tribe (SC/ST) of Jammu and Kashmir.

While addressing media persons Prof. Manhar Arora, Managing Director said that the group was offering four different scholarships for all the students of Jammu and Kashmir.

"First big announcement is that students belong to Scheduled Cast and Scheduled Tribe (SC/ST) will have to pay no fee for studying in St. Soldier Group of Institutions, but they must be eligible for selected course. Second announcement is for all students

belongs to other casts including general category," he said.

"There will be Young Scholars Reward Scholarships for all the students of Jammu and Kashmir specially for general category to be offered by St. Soldier Group of Institutions. Young Scholars Reward Scholarships will be distributed with simple criteria," he added.

Arora said that the academic eligibility for any course is 50% marks.

"Students securing marks more than 50% will get 10% Scholarship. Students securing marks more than 60% will get 20% Scholarship, in the same manner students securing more than 70% marks will get 30%, students securing more than 80% marks will get 40% and students who score more than 90% marks will get 50% Scholarship," he added.

Sarmad Hafeez Launches Pre Paid Counter For Pony Service At Pahalgam

Observer News Service

PAHALGAM: Giving the services and facilities being provided by the Department a further push, the Tourism Department has started pre-paid counter for pony service at the Pahalgam tourist resort.

The service was launched on Tuesday by Secretary, Tourism, Sarmad Hafeez in presence of representatives of various Departments and local stakeholders.

Under the prepaid service, tourists can book a pony ride at a designated spot, to begin with from Pony stand No.1 (near Petrol pump), and get a pony ride booked on designated routes for the rates notified by the Department.

Speaking on the occasion, the Tourism Secretary congratulated the local stakeholders for taking a lead in establishing a pre-paid counter for pony service, hoping that with the establish-

ment of this counter there remains no scope for any complaint of cheating or inconvenience.

Praising the local stakeholders for upholding the tradition of local hospitality, Sarmad Hafeez said there has been a demand from local stakeholders about establishment of such a counter and hoped that with this the tourists and visitors would have a hassle free pony ride free from any inconvenience and cheating.

Emphasizing on cleanliness and ensuring environment friendly tourism activities, the Tourism Secretary said that the Department would provide various stakeholders including youth from Eco Clubs, Pony wallahs, hoteliers and other service providers a common platform to take action at preserving the fragile ecology. He appealed to the people of Pahalgam to be conscious of the environment and ensure cleanliness in the area.

Jammu-Baramulla Rail Project Will Accelerate Progress, Prosperity In J&K: Govt

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Jammu-Baramulla railway line project once completed will act as catalyst towards accelerated development, progress, and prosperity in the region, an official spokesperson said Tuesday.

He said this all weather and cost effective connectivity shall prove to be a boon for economy of J&K besides catalyzing industrialization, movement of raw material, trade, tourism and employment generation as well.

He said that a sustainable connectivity to this region is very important for national security, prosperity and socio-economic development of the region. De-

spite vast resources, Kashmir valley lagged behind in terms of development due to lack of railway connectivity.

"After the abrogation of Article 370, central and UT governments made serious efforts to establish rail connectivity to the region for which a number of railway projects have been initiated which are under execution in different stages," he added.

The spokesperson said that the Central government has declared the project as National Project in view of its significance for the nation. Institutions like IIT Delhi, IIT Roorkee, Geographical Survey of India and DRDO are providing expertise in the project planning and it's imple-

mentation.

"This route will also see construction of world's highest railway bridge and India's first cable stayed Railway Bridge," he said, adding "After completion, this line will be all weather convenient and cost effective mass transportation system and will act as a catalyst for overall development of the northernmost alpine region of the country."

This project has great significance for security and socio-economic development. It can play important role in rapid industrialization, movement of raw materials and finished products from J&K and encourage trade and tourism in the region apart from providing opportu-

nity for employment, an official said. Similarly, it will be a boon for development of agriculture, horticulture and floriculture of this area, he added.

According to the spokesperson, the construction of first 3 phases of the railway project has been completed and the line is operational between Banihal - Baramulla in Kashmir Valley and Jammu-Udhampur-Katra in Jammu region. Besides, work on intervening 111 km of Katra-Banihal section is going on which is the most challenging portion for construction due to its geology and extensive Riverine system with deep gorges.

According to a senior official of Northern Railways, Kashmir

valley would be connected to Jammu and rest of the country during 2023, providing efficient connectivity to Kashmir valley with other parts of the country through rail network.

The main tunnel of T-49, the longest tunnel of Indian Railways, between Sumbur and Arpinchala station of Katra-Banihal section of Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) project has been connected successfully.

After completion of this project, it would be a splendid project of engineering of 21st century and this project will write a new story of development, progress, prosperity and security of the nation.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

**OFFICE OF THE BLOCK
MEDICAL OFFICER TRAL
NIT**

On behalf of Lt. Governor of J&K UT sealed tenders affixing revenue stamp of Rs.2 are invited from the local vendors for the supply of Spectacles under COB scheme to the office of u/sd. The tenders along with a CDR for Rs.5000/- pledged to BMO Tral from any branch of J&K Bank shall reach to the office of u/sd. within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice, in case of holiday the following date shall be last date for submission of tenders. The detailed terms and conditions can be had from the office of u/sd. and the desired dealers can get it during office hours

NO: BMO/TRL/NHM/10-11
Dated:- 25/05/2022
DIPK-3009/22

Sd/-
Block Medical Officer
Tral



*Famous Irani
Chai of Bombay
now in Srinagar*

IRANI CHAI
PINEAPPLE TEA
BUN MASKA
BUN MASKA WITH JAM

SANDWITCHES

TURKISH BURGER
(BUN MASKA SPECIAL)
CHICKEN CRISPY BURGER
CHICKEN PERI PERI
MEXICAN BURGER
BARBECUE BURGER
CHILLI GARLIC
ZINGER BURGER
KINGSIZE BURGER

VEG BURGERS

ALOO TIKKI
CRISPY PANEER
PERI PERI
CHILLI GARLIC
TANDOORI
BARBECUE

QUICK BITES

DRUMSTICKS 2 Pc
CHICKEN STRIPS 4 pc
CHICKEN WINGS 2pc
CHICKEN POP CORN 15 Pc
CHICKEN CHEESY POPCORN
CHICKEN PERI PERI POPCORN

FRENCH FRIES

DRINKS

REGULAR
PERI PERI
CHEEZY

COLD COFFEE
MOJITO
FRESH LIME SODA



JK Bank Lawns,
Opp Ghat 6 Boulevard,
Srinagar

