

40% Of Population Won't Have To Pay Property Tax: LG

'Property Tax In Jammu And Kashmir Is Least As Compared To Other States'

Observer News Service

Srinagar: In an attempt to silence his critics opposing the imposition of property tax in Jammu and Kashmir, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said on Monday that 40% of the population of the Union Territory won't have to pay the tax, which is otherwise one-tenth of the tax amount being paid elsewhere in the country.

"The property tax in Jammu and Kashmir is the least as compared to other states. There are around 5, 20,000 houses in cities of J&K. Out of these, 2,06,000 houses are less than 1000 sq ft which means 40% won't have to pay any property tax. 2,03,680 houses are less than 1500 sq ft and 80% of these households will have to pay less than Rs 600 per annum while the rest will have to pay a nominal amount of Rs 1000 maximum," Sinha said, while talking to reporters on the sidelines of a function at Kashmir International Convention Centre (KICC) here on Monday.



Defending the move, the LG said that in order to make urban local bodies self-reliant, Housing & Urban Development Department (HUDD) has notified the introduction of property tax in Jammu & Kashmir like other parts of the country. "The amount is one-tenth of the tax amount being paid in

Shimla, Ambala and Dehradun," he said. "In commercial establishments, out of 1, 01,000 shops in Srinagar, Jammu & other municipalities, and around 46% of shops (46,000 shops) are less than 100 sqft and they will have to pay upto Rs 700 per annum. Out of these 46,000 shops, 80% will have to pay Rs 500-550 per annum/ **More on P10**

IF A COMMON MAN HAS ANY PROBLEM, he must reach out to the administration. It is our collective responsibility to build a J&K which is economically prosperous, with ample opportunities for livelihood generation so that people can live & work with dignity and peace."

DGP Orders Digitization Of Records Of Anti-Nationals

Observer News Service

Jammu: The Director General of Police J&K, Dilbag Singh on Monday called for timely digitization of all records pertaining to all terrorists, over-ground workers (OGWs), anti-national elements, besides compilation of data regarding their properties and friends across the Union Territory. He made these remarks while chairing a meeting of all DySP police components at Police Control Room (PCR) Kashmir, a police spokesperson said. Addressing the meeting, he said, the DGP asserted that JKP over the years has been doing commendable job on the anti-terror front because of which the force has become a brand across the country which is further validated by the awards JKP has received over the years. Singh, he said, maintained

that in view of new and upcoming challenges, police needs to further enhance the effectiveness of these units for which he directed the component heads to submit their suggestions and identify the areas which they feel could be further improved. "JKP has been firmly tackling every situation and subversive acts with fortitude and emphasized on the need to continue working with similar dedication and commitment for providing a terror free eco-system in J&K," Singh said. The DGP, according to the spokesperson, stressed upon the officers to increase focus on human intelligence besides the technical inputs and enjoined upon all the Units to intensify anti-terror operations to flush out the remaining terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir besides exhorted upon to take stringent action against any **More on P10**

4 Houses Attached In Srinagar For 'Sheltering Militants'

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The State Investigation Unit (SIU) of Jammu and Kashmir police on Monday attached four residential houses in Srinagar for providing willfully shelter to militants. While three houses were attached in Barthana Qamarwari, another was attached in Sangam locality of Eidgah here for providing shelter to militants, a police spokesperson said Monday. The action, he said, came after orders were issued in exercise of power conferred U/S 25 read with 2 (g)(ii) UA(P) Act. The residential houses in Srinagar belong to Shaheena/Asif Nath, Altaf Ahmed Dar and Mudasir Ahmed Mir. The house attached at Sangam-Edigah belongs to Abdul Rehman Bhat. "The SIU team directed the concerned that there should be no alteration or otherwise to



the attached properties without the prior permission of the designated authority," he added. The action has been taken after the investigation into a militancy-related case revealed that a module of ultras was found involved in hiding and providing logistical

support to active terrorists of TRF/LeT outfit, which resulted in the arrest of the involved persons. "During the investigation, it was also found that the terrorists had been sheltered in the said residential houses," the officials said.

Man Booked For Filing False Complaint Of Robbery

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: A man was booked here for allegedly misleading police by lodging a false complaint claiming that he was robbed of his money, police said on Monday. The man was identified as Farooq Ahmad Dar, a resident of Bandipora. According to police, he was involved in the business of buying and selling liquor. Dar had purchased 13 bottles of liquor from a wine shop in the Sonawar area. After three men stopped him at Hari Singh High Street, he left his bag carrying bottles and mobile phone on the spot and fled from the spot. All this was captured in the nearby CCTV cameras, a police spokesperson said. He was hiding in a nearby building and left while covering his face after some time. By then the three unidentified men had taken away his bag and mobile phone, they said, adding that no cash was taken away from the complainant. "The complainant was doing the business of purchasing and selling the liquor. The investigation used various technical evidences like CCTV footages, CD-R/Tower Locations etc.," he said. While the three accused were arrested, the **More on P10**

Another 'Son-Rise' In J&K, Azad's Son Enters Politics

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) chairman Ghulam Nabi Azad's son Saddam Nabi Azad has joined active politics, party spokesperson said on Sunday. Saddam (41) was seen at the party's youth convention at Nigeen Club Sunday in the presence of his father and senior party leaders. While he shared the stage with the party leaders, he did not address the convention. It was his first public appearance in the Kashmir valley. Saddam, a businessman, is the eldest among the two siblings. He has studied in England. Sofiya Nabi Azad, his sister, has studied journalism. Party leaders said Saddam will play an active role in politics and focus on Jammu and Kashmir. "He will be in active politics now," DPAP chief spokesperson Salman Nizami told PTI. Asked if Saddam would get any responsibility in the party affairs, Nizami said the party will take a decision on the matter in due course of time. Addressing the rally, Azad said he asked his **More on P10**

ATTENDED A YOUTH INTERACTION PROGRAMME AT SRINAGAR. Listening to our youth and creating diverse job opportunities for them will be my priority if voted to power. I am glad to see my son Saddam Azad actively joining politics. I hope he lives upto people's expectations!"

Govt Strips SKIMS Of Autonomous Status

Dir Asked To Submit All Matters Before H&ME For Approval

Agencies

Srinagar: The autonomy of Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Science (SKIMS) has ended as the Director of the Institute has been directed to submit all matters before Health and Medical Education for approval. The official communiqué of Health and Medical Education reads that the administration of SKIMS has been assigned to the Health and Medical Education Department. "Accordingly, I am directed to intimate you that henceforth all matters/proposals/case files may be submitted for consideration/approval of the Competent Authority (HLG) through Health and Medical Education Department," it reads. "The case files/references/proposals received from the SKIMS and presently lying in General Administration Department are accordingly returned herewith in the 1st phase for further action as per the existing TBRs," it adds further. Notably, SKIMS is the only medical university of the union territory of J&K, headed by a Director, who is also the Ex-officio Secretary to the Government. **More on P10**

LG Assures Justice As Slain KP Guard Cremated



Scores of people from different walks of life held a candlelight vigil in Pulwama on Monday against the killing of Kashmiri Pandit bank guard Sanjay Sharma by militants.

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: A day after he was shot dead by terrorists, Kashmiri Pandit bank guard Sanjay Sharma was cremated in his native village

in Jammu and Kashmir's Pulwama district on Monday, with his Muslim neighbours lending a helping hand to his grief-stricken family. Lieutenant Governor (LG) Manoj Sinha **More on P10**

ADGP Calls For Enhanced Counter-Terror Ops

A day after militants shot dead a Kashmiri Pandit evoking sharp condemnation, the Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) Kashmir Zone, Vijay Kumar on Monday visited Pulwama and directed his men to enhance counter-terror operations in the South Kashmir district. Kumar passed these directions while **More on P10**

THIS IS NOT THE MURDER OF ONE individual, this is the murder of humanity. The people of this area are as bereaved as the family of the victim."

KP Employees Raise Relocation Pitch After Latest Killing

Press Trust Of India


Jammu: Scores of protesting Kashmiri Pandit prime minister's package employees on Monday reiterated their demand for relocation outside the valley, saying their worst fears have come true with the latest killing of a community member in Pulwama. The protesters assembled outside the relief commissioner's office in Jammu and staged a protest against the killing of Sanjay Sharma (40), a bank ATM guard who was shot dead by militants in the Achan area of the south Kashmir district on Sunday. "We were apprehensive about something like this, being fully aware of the ground

realities. The latest killing has dealt a severe blow to our confidence and further increased our concern over our community members' safety in the valley," Yogesh Pandita, one of the protesters, told reporters. Reiterating their demand for relocation outside the valley, he said the government's claim about a secure atmosphere for their return to join their duties stands exposed. "The administration choked us financially by stopping our salaries to force us to rejoin our duties. We are afraid of working there given the continued targeted killings," Pandita said. Hundreds of prime minister package employees belonging to the **More on P10**


MeT Predicts Scattered Rain, Snow In J&K

Agencies

Srinagar: The weather department on Monday predicted scattered light rain and snow in Jammu and Kashmir during the next 24 hours. "From March 1-2nd, light rain is expected in plains and light to moderate snow and rain over higher reaches at many places," a meteorological department official said, adding, "Dry weather is expected during 3rd to 7th March." Regarding temperature, he said, Srinagar recorded a low of 4.2°C against 7.3°C on the previous night and it was above normal by 2.7°C for the summer capital. Qazigund, he said, recorded a low of 1.5°C against 5.2°C on the previous night while Pahalgam recorded a low of minus 0.9°C against 3.2°C. Kokernag recorded a low of 2.4°C against 4.3°C on the previous night and it was 2.3°C above normal for the place, the officials said. Gulmarg recorded a low of minus 2.5°C against minus 1.6°C on the previous night and it was 3.3°C above normal for the world famous skiing resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, he said. In Kupwara town, he said, the mercury **More on P10**



OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI KASHMIR PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT RAJBAGH SRINAGAR



PUBLIC NOTICE

Jal Shakti Kashmir Public Health Engineering Department Srinagar is in the service of providing water supply to the consumers spread across length and breadth of the valley. In this context, the general public especially our esteemed consumers are expected to shoulder certain moral, social, religious & legal obligations and are sincerely requested to strictly adhere to the following guidelines.

1. Water resources like Rivers, Springs, Canals, Wells and Streams must be saved from all sorts of pollution because they serve as the natural reservoirs of drinking water.
2. The drinking water supply must be used judiciously and not used for construction purposes, washing and cleaning of vehicles and pathways, watering of gardens.
3. No water boosters should be installed on water supply service lines as they create vacuum which stops normal flow of water supply in the pipelines. If required potable water supply can be stored in on-ground or underground sumps I tanks and later lifted to overhead storage tanks.
4. All dues on account of water usage charges be paid in time.

All the consumers (domestic or commercial, semi-Govt. or Govt., institutions / industries) are requested to clear all the outstanding dues including current years' water usage charges by or before 15th March 2023 to avoid disconnection of their water connections.

CHIEF ENGINEER

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KASHMIR OBSERVER

Tuesday | 28-02-2023

De Javu

The painful killing of one more Kashmiri Pandit Sanjay Kumar Sharma has come as a setback to an otherwise improving security situation. And it is a killing that can't be condemned enough. Sharma was on his way to the local market in the Pulwama district when he was shot dead by militants. It is the first such killing since October and took place just when we were beginning to believe that the minority killings were over in the Valley. Even going by the nature of such killings, Sharma was a soft target. He was a bank guard, making ends meet with difficulty. Besides, he was among the Pandits who hadn't migrated from the valley even during the worst of times.

The killing thus confronts security agencies with a formidable challenge. It is going to make the miniscule Pandit community further insecure, including the hundreds of Pandit employees who have returned to Kashmir to work. And it is now the responsibility of the security forces to take firm steps to protect them and ensure no more minority killing takes place.

Kashmiri Pandit employees have already been demanding their relocation to Jammu till the time Kashmir Valley is safe for their return. However, the administration wants them to rejoin their duties in the Valley. Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha had earlier said that the employees who do not work, would not be paid, a statement that drew flak from some major politicians and political parties, including the BJP. It is not only killings but also threats to minorities from the militants that have created a widespread scare.

Last year, an outfit even issued a list of Kashmiri Pandits employees they planned to target. This has been a source of deep concern for security agencies and also among the people. However, the government needs to take the killings and threats very seriously. Last year, twenty four people were killed in Kashmir, the victims including Kashmiri Pandits, migrant labourers and security personnel returning for holidays to their homes. This has created a fraught situation. Hence the serious concern expressed by the various political parties including also by Kashmiri Pandit groups is understandable.

Pandit employees have been demanding that the administration waive off the bond requiring them to remain permanently posted in Kashmir. This has created a tricky situation for the administration, which wants all Kashmiri Pandits to return to Kashmir. But may be, we need to wait for it for sometime more. Kashmir has to be made safer before this happens.

OTHER OPINION

Poor ratio

The ills plaguing school education in India are manifold. No sooner have enrolment numbers reached pre-pandemic levels than problems — old and new — have arisen. Responses to questions in Parliament have bared abysmal teacher-student ratios in India's classrooms, with densely populated states faring poorly. Bihar has 60 students per teacher in the primary section, while the national capital has 40. Jharkhand and Haryana, with 33 and 32 students per teacher, respectively, are two other states with pupil-teacher ratios worse than the number recommended — 30 students per teacher in the primary section — by the Right to Education Act. The statistics are slightly better in the upper primary section. Delhi tops this group with 39 teachers per pupil, while Jharkhand has 38. West Bengal just about meets the threshold of the recommended ratio of 35:1. Some of the most populous states also have the highest number of schools with only one teacher. Madhya Pradesh has 16,630 single-teacher schools and Andhra Pradesh has more than 12,000 such schools. There has been a meagre 8.26% increase in the budgetary allocation on education to Rs 1.13 lakh crore this year. Such miserly increments are unlikely to resolve the hydra-headed problems that confront school education.

The paucity of investment in education for a nation that seeks to be a knowledge society is appalling. Numbers tell the story. India spends only 2.9% of its GDP on average on education while Scandinavian countries — not quite the biggest of economies but with sizeable investments in education — have far healthier teacher-student ratios. What is evident is that India has got its priorities muddled up. Investments in education or, say, in health and nutrition on the part of the State remain dismal statistics. This is certainly unfortunate. Research has repeatedly shown that robust investments in these spheres are fundamental to national growth and development. Policy transitions have also contributed to the crisis. The State's gradual withdrawal from public welfare has corresponded with an increasing privatisation of education. Coupled with this is the present dispensation's thrust towards a markedly utilitarian — cosmetic — approach towards education in general. The possibility of the persistence of these glaring deficiencies in school education — the poor teacher-student ratio is just one manifestation — cannot be ruled out on joining the above mentioned — dispiriting — developments.

Telegraph India

Are Leopards in Kashmir Getting Domesticated?

Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat

They come down almost every evening to human habitations, kill a few dogs and take them away. This has become a common practice for the leopards living around the Karewas of Budgam near Srinagar airport. This entire area has become a safe haven for them for almost 15 years now and my assumption has been that these cats are no longer wild. This was authenticated by senior wildlife officer Raashid Naqash the Regional Wildlife Warden Kashmir recently during my detailed interaction with him. He is of the opinion that due to changed habitat and close proximity with human population, the leopards who have made Karewas of Budgam near Srinagar airport their abode for the last 10 to 15 years are less wild now as majority of them have not seen their traditional habitat which used to be the alpine forests. It is now a known fact that leopards living around Srinagar outskirts especially in Budgam Karewas feed on dogs who are found in abundance in the area.

Change in Eating Habits & Habitat

A few decades back, the leopards in Kashmir would hardly hunt for dogs. This was because leopards would not visit human habitations quite frequently. Due to deforestation and the construction of roads around forest areas, leopards were forced to visit human habitations. Initially, they used to kill humans, especially children.

As per my own assessment and field research, this graph has come down now. The reason is that leopards have become habitual to kill and eat dogs.

The leopards who live around Srinagar airport and other Karewas of Budgam probably used to live in Pir Panjal mountains of Budgam and after coming down in search of food they found a new habitat as well and got settled in the vast Karewas which are small hilly tracts spread around Budgam district.

As the lifespan of leopards is between 15 to 17 years, I believe a majority of them who come down in search of prey to Rangreth, Pirbagh, Gogoland, Humhama, Ompora, Ichgam, Kralpora, Wathoora and other areas surrounding Srinagar airport have been born and brought up in the Karewas only. These cats are not familiar with the habitat of their ancestors who used to live in the upper reaches surrounded by alpine forests. This is the reason that this new breed of leopards is not as wild and is getting domesticated.

Few years back a leopard killed a little girl Adha in Humhama, but from last 3 years there has been no fresh case wherein children or any other human being has been attacked by the leopards even as they are found in good numbers around Srinagar airport and

Budgam Karewas.

Karewas, The new habitat

The Karewas are the plateau-like landforms that remain tucked away in the folds of the surrounding mountains, particularly the Pir Panjal mountain range in Kashmir.

Karewas are 13,000-18,000 metre-thick deposits of alluvial soil and sediments like

sandstone and mudstone. This makes them ideal for cultivation of saffron, almonds, apples and several other cash crops. In Budgam district a large number of almond orchards are located in the Karewas. During the spring season when the almond trees are in bloom, the Karewas look gorgeous.

Kashmir saffron, which received a Geographical Indica-

a new habitat where they rest during the day without any human interference and soon after sunset they come down to villages and colonies like Kralpora, Wathoora, Rangreth, Gogoland, Pir Pagh, Humhama in search of food. They kill dogs and take them away in their jaws. Only a few days back, a leopard was spotted in Malik Bagh Kralpora area who was seen carrying a



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At a time when we see so many leopards around Srinagar airport, why hasn't any attack been reported? I personally believe that a time will come when they will roam freely in streets and residential areas because of their changing food habits and habitats

tion (GI) tag in 2020 for its longer and thicker stigmas, deep-red colour, high aroma and bitter flavour, is also grown on these Karewas especially in Pampore and some areas of adjoining Pulwama district.

The fertility of these patches is believed to be the result of their long history of formation. Karewas were formed during the Pleistocene period (2.6 million years to 11,700 years ago), the Pir Panjal range blocked the natural drainage in the region and formed a lake spanning 5,000 sq km and that is the reason Kashmir valley was known as Satisar. The water receded after a major earthquake from the Baramulla area, making way for the valley and the formation of the Karewas between the mountains. In Hindu mythology it is said that Kashab Rishi drained out the water to get hold of a Demon who lived in the Satisar. The Srinagar airport is located in Karewa Damodar which is an elevated plateau like land formation.

Until the early 1990s, the Karewa land around the airport was mostly barren. Except for almond trees, there was no other vegetation around this vast area of around 50 square kilometers. In 1990-1991, the government, through Social Forestry Department started massive plantations in the Karewas Damodar just outside the airport area some villages located near the airport, particularly in Humhama, Ompora, Kralpora, Wathoora, Rangreth, Gogo and other areas. The plantation has become so thick that the boundaries of the Karewa Damodar (airport area) looks like a dense forest. As there is less movement of people here due to the security cover around the area, leopards who migrated from Pir Panjal forests found set up

dog in the jaws.

Conclusion

Not only are leopards roaming freely in human habitations around Srinagar airport, we have seen a female bear and her cubs roaming around Rajbagh and Jawahar Nagar last year in September. The bears from the Zabarwan mountain range, especially the Shankaracharya hill in Srinagar, come down in search of food. Their main aim is to search for garbage bins where they find a lot of non-veg waste food dumped in it. Just as the plantations in Karewas around Srinagar airport paved a way for leopards to make the area their abode, similarly, bears from Zabarwan mountains came down and made Shankaracharya hill their abode as the deodar and kail plantation was done around early 1990s by Forest Department which has turned the area into a thick forest now. In both cases, neither the bears found in Shankaracharya hill nor leopards in Budgam Karewas are very dangerous because they don't kill human-beings.

At a time when we see so many leopards around Srinagar airport, why hasn't any attack been reported? I personally believe that a time will come when they will roam freely in streets and residential areas because of their changing food habits and habitats.

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

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Simple Pleasures

DESPITE living in the digital age, there are some habits which many of us simply cannot give up. Preferring to read a printed book over the online version is one such. There are multiple reasons why a large swathe of Indian readers always prefer hard copy of books to online reading. Psy-

chologically, the 'ownership' factor could be a key reason, besides the nice feeling you get while touching a new book, its fragrance, pleasure of turning the pages, easy portability, leisure reading — all make a physical book comfortably win over an e-book. However splendid the cover image of an e-book may look on screen, it is

still an image rather than a physical thing. Another major disadvantage with an e-book is that you cannot look at more than one page at once. In fact, a study from West Chester University of Pennsylvania reveals that students who read on iPads had lower reading comprehension than when they read traditional printed books. A good

physical book is like a full course of a sumptuous meal, whereas an e-book is just fast food. Said the noted American novelist Harper Lee: "The book to read is not the one that thinks for you, but the one which makes you think."

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What Is Delirium?

Jo Adetunji

Delirium is a sudden decline in a person's usual mental function. It occurs when signals in the brain aren't sending and receiving properly, causing confusion in thinking and altered behaviour or levels of consciousness.

Delirium isn't a disease – it's a clinical syndrome or condition that is usually temporary and treatable. It's often mistaken for dementia because both conditions have similar symptoms, such as confusion, agitation and delusions. If a health-care professional doesn't know the patient, it can be difficult to tell the difference.

Up to one-third of older people admitted to hospital are diagnosed with delirium. This increases the risk of unnecessary functional decline, a longer hospital stay, falls, needing to be admitted to a residential aged care facility, and death.

However, identifying the condition early reduces these risks. Delirium can also be prevented by identifying who is vulnerable to the condition and finding ways of reducing the person's risk.

What causes delirium?

Delirium is usually caused by a number of underlying acute (short-term) illnesses and medical complications. Elderly people are vulnerable to delirium because their bodies have fewer reserves than younger people to respond to these stressors. People with dementia are particularly at risk.

Factors that cause or increase the risk of delirium include:

- malnutrition
- dehydration
- new medications
- a fall
- surgery
- infection
- admission to the intensive care unit
- multiple bed moves
- pain.

A diagnosis of delirium is made on the basis of clinical history, behavioural observation and a cognitive assessment by a clinician trained to assess delirium.

The patient and their family or carer should also be asked about any recent changes in the patient's behaviour or thinking.

So how can it be prevented or treated?

Clinical care focuses on preventing de-



DELIRIUM IS ALSO UNDER-RECOGNISED BECAUSE IT CAN PRESENT VERY DIFFERENTLY. In some people it can result in hyperactivity (hallucinations, delusions or uncooperative behaviour), and in other people, hypoactivity (decreased arousal which can be mistaken for fatigue or depression), or mixture of both.

lirium, managing risk factors and symptoms, and reducing the chance of complications, which prolong or worsen the condition.

To help prevent delirium we can: frequently reorient the person (reminding them of their location, the date and time)

encourage the person to get out of bed and, where appropriate, to walk around, while ensuring they're safe from falling manage their pain ensure adequate nutrition and hydration reduce their sensory impairments

(helping them put on glasses and hearing aids and ensuring they're working) ensure proper sleep patterns.

Why is delirium under-diagnosed?

While delirium is potentially preventable, it's poorly recognised, and cases are often missed. This is due to inadequate knowledge among the attending health-care staff, a lack of routine formal screening and assessment, and health-care staff not knowing the patient.

Diagnosing delirium can be difficult when symptoms fluctuate during the day.

Changes in alertness come and go, with people usually more alert in the morning and less so at night.

Read more: Preventing delirium protects seniors in hospital, but could also ease overcrowding and emergency room backlogs

Delirium is also under-recognised because it can present very differently. In some people it can result in hyperactivity (hallucinations, delusions or uncooperative behaviour), and in other people, hypoactivity (decreased arousal which can be mistaken for fatigue or depression), or mixture of both.

Around 50% of people who are discharged from hospital with unresolved delirium symptoms can experience symptoms lasting for months. Alarming, some people transition into permanent states of cognitive impairment.

Delirium takes a toll on carers

Delirium costs the Australian government around A\$8.8 billion a year.

The greater cost, however, is that experienced by the patient and their family. The sudden change in a person's behaviour and/or emotions as a result of delirium causes high levels of stress and anxiety for family carers.

Carers of older adults diagnosed with delirium report high levels of psychological distress, poor wellbeing and less satisfaction with life because of their caregiving role.

The identification and management of risk for delirium is therefore imperative for safe and quality care for both patients and their family.

Partnering with family carers

Partnering with family carers can improve the care outcomes for older people who are hospitalised.

Family carers and friends are well placed to detect changes in patients' cognition and behaviour. Close family members, in particular, have intimate knowledge about the person's previous mental state and can identify subtle changes in their behaviour.

However, many carers of patients discharged from hospital with delirium receive little advice or ongoing support. Despite recent clinical standards recommending family carers be active participants in care, they're often left out. This has been compounded by the COVID pandemic.

To address this shortfall, we have developed a model of care to support the integration of carers as partners in the prevention and management of delirium to improve health outcomes.

Using a web-based toolkit, we're hoping to increase awareness and knowledge of delirium among carers of older adults in hospital who are at risk of delirium. It also aims to support the carer's wellbeing.

The toolkit is currently being trialed and evaluated at Tweed Hospital and, if successful, could be rolled out to all hospitals.

By arrangements with *The Conversation*

WHO Thwarts Our Perception Of e-cigarettes

Smoking is injurious to health. Recall the number of times you have read it on a packet of cigarettes and yet spotted someone or the other smoking their way to happiness. With e-cigarettes, you can see many vaping to happiness. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention defines e-cigarettes as electronic devices that heat a liquid that contains nicotine and produce an aerosol, or mix of small particles in the air.

While they come in many shapes and sizes, they have a battery, a heating element and a place to hold liquid. A vaper usually inhales the e-cigarette aerosol into his lungs. Others who are breathing in this aerosol exhaled by the smoker also end up passive smoking in the process. While these come in various shapes and sizes, they are mostly battery-operated. Due to the presence of substances as harmful as nicotine, it is not considered safe for kids, teens and young adults.

Despite these basic facts about e-cigarettes, their sales have only gone up higher over the years. Sample this: in the period between November 2016 and August 2019, the sales of e-cigarette units in the US went up by 300 per cent. The pandemic proved to be a turning point as the market witnessed an increase in sales of combustible cigarettes, as many began avoiding e-cigarettes due to an increase in taxes, bans on flavoured products and questions on if they really were safer than the combustible options. Now, a brand-new report by the World Health Organisation has rung alarm bells on the use of e-cigarettes. WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus has said that while nicotine itself is harmful, the



electronic nicotine delivery systems present in e-cigarettes could be potentially more harmful and must be regulated carefully.

These observations come in the wake of the WHO report on the Global Tobacco Epidemic 2021 which takes stock of new products. It observes that these need to be very closely regulated and their uptake by children and young adults

need to be monitored precisely for the aforementioned reasons. If the use of e-cigarettes among the younger population is a cause of concern, it is only because many ENDS manufacturers target them with different flavours, offering it as a substitute to the combustible versions. For the longest time, the confused messaging around e-cigarettes had many believe that it is a 'safer' option.

Vaping became the new-age smoking. But as technologies evolve and present a plethora of choices to us, it is not only the governments' but also individual responsibility to use these products with caution. This is the idea at the heart of the report.

Khaleej Times

India Likely To Miss 2030 Deadline For Over Half Of Health SDGs: Lancet study

Press Trust Of India

India is not on target for over 50 per cent of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicators related to health and social determinants of health seven years before the 2030 deadline, according to a study published in The Lancet journal.

An international team of researchers found that over 75 per cent Indian districts are off target for crucial SDG indicators like access to basic services, poverty, stunting and wasting of children, anaemia, child marriage, partner violence, tobacco use, and modern contraceptive use.

For these indicators, more than 75 per cent of the districts were off-target. These districts are concentrated in Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Bihar, and Odisha.

"India is not on target for 19 of the 33 SDGs indicators ... Because of a worsening trend observed between 2016 and 2021, and assuming no course correction occurs, many districts will never meet the targets on the SDGs even well after 2030," the authors of the study noted.

"Developing a strategic roadmap at this time will help India ensure success with re-

Among the 19 off-target indicators, the conditions have worsened for three related to anaemia because of an increase in the prevalence of anaemia among pregnant and non-pregnant women between 2016 and 2021.

gards to meeting the SDGs," they said.

India's emergence and sustenance as a leading economic power depends on meeting some of the more basic health and social determinants of health-related SDGs in an immediate and equitable manner, the authors said.

The study provides the first systematic midline assessment of the progress that 707 Indian districts out of 763 have made to achieve the SDGs related to health and so-

cial determinants of health.

The assessment suggests an urgent need to increase the pace and momentum on four SDG goals: No poverty (SDG 1), zero hunger (SDG 2), good health and well-being (SDG 3) and gender equality (SDG 5).

The researchers, from Harvard University, US, Laxmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute in New Delhi, Graduate School of Korea University, and Institute of Economic Growth, New Delhi, pointed out some positives as well. India is on-target to meet 13 out of the 33 indicators.

These are internet use, bank account for women, full vaccination, improved sanitation, reduction in multi-dimensional poverty, birth registration, skilled birth attendants, electricity access, tobacco use reduction among women, lowering of child marriage among less than 15-year-old girls, under-five mortality, teenage sexual violence and neonatal mortality.

Among the 19 off-target indicators, the conditions have worsened for three related to anaemia because of an increase in the prevalence of anaemia among pregnant and non-pregnant women between 2016 and 2021.

The authors believe that India would never be able to meet the SDGs targets related to anaemia if this trend continues.

For the remaining 16 indicators that are off-target, the observed rate of change between 2016 and 2021, though in desirable direction, is insufficient to meet SDG targets by 2030, they said.

Assuming the observed rate of change, India will meet its targets on improved water by 2031, hand washing facility by 2033, clean fuel for cooking by 2035, teenage pregnancy in 2039, and partner violence (sexual) by 2040, according to the researchers.

Another 11 off-target indicators will be met between 2041 and 2162, including access to basic services in 2047 and partner violence (physical or

sexual) in 2090, they added



Cheaper Gene Screening Makes For DNA Data Dilemma

360info

Cheaper DNA sequencing promises a world of health benefits. But to realise these, careful and sensitive storage of DNA data is vital.

Seventy years ago this week, scientists Francis Crick and James Watson burst into a pub in Cambridge, UK, announcing to friends and colleagues they had discovered the secret of life.

They formally published their discovery, the shape of the DNA molecule and the way it codes information, just a few months later. The study of DNA has continued in giant strides since that day. Just last week, the life of a UK toddler, Teddi Shaw, was saved using understanding and manipulation of her genetic code.

The ability to read the DNA code, known as sequencing, has become cheaper and more widely available, leading to challenging questions for scientists and ethicists

On the one hand, cheaper sequencing will allow newborns to be screened for genetic conditions, such as MLD, the one that would have killed Teddi. MLD is considered a rare disease, affecting perhaps one in 160,000 children.

But as Gareth Baynam, from the Rare Care Centre at Perth Children's Hospital, Australia, says rare diseases are anything but.

With around 7,000 different rare diseases, they are collectively very common, affecting more people than have diabetes, he says.

The significant decrease in the cost of DNA screening and profiling has the potential to revolutionise the way we diagnose and treat rare and undiagnosed genetic conditions and diseases.

Danya Vears from the Murdoch Children's Research Institute and University of Melbourne says: Incorporating genomic sequencing into newborn screening would mean more babies who are going to develop severe conditions could be detected earlier, leading to earlier interventions and healthier babies.

But she adds a note of caution. Storing and re-analysing genomic newborn screening data also poses ethical issues and questions.

Such questions include discrimination. Jackie Leach Scully from UNSW Sydney says that an abnormality on a genetic test may too easily be understood as something that must be selected against.

Differences in bodies and behaviour, no matter how minor, may be automatically assumed to be unwanted, she warns.

According to Yann Joly, research director of the Centre of Genomics and Policy at McGill University, Canada, genetic discrimination has occurred in the past and must be guarded against.

In the late 1970s mandatory genetic screening programmes for sickle cell disease (a group of inherited blood disorders) in the US adversely impacted members of the Black population who were not able to gain employment or medical insurance following a positive test result.

How iPhone Passcode Is Helping Thieves Steal Your Money And Data

IANIS

The passcode in iPhones that helps people unlock their devices is now giving thieves easy access to steal their money and data at public places.

According to Wall Street Journal, using a remarkably low-tech trick, thieves watch iPhone owners tap their passcodes, then steal their targets' phones and their digital lives.

A 31-year-old senior economist at a workforce intelligence startup lost all photos, contacts and notes in her iPhone 13 Pro Max which was snatched at a bar in Midtown Manhattan and about \$10,000 vanished from her bank account in just 24 hours.

"With only the iPhone and its passcode, an interloper can within seconds change the password associated with the iPhone owner's Apple ID," said the report.

This would lock the victim out of their account, which includes anything stored in iCloud.

"The thief can also often loot the phone's financial apps since the passcode can unlock access to all the device's stored passwords," it added.

When the password change is complete, the software offers an option to force other Apple devices, such as Macs or iPads, to sign out of the Apple account, so a victim couldn't turn to those devices to regain access.



The Apple software never requires the user to enter an older password before setting a new one.

With the new password, the thief can disable Find My iPhone. Disabling Find My iPhone feature also allows the thief to resell

the iPhone.

As Apple spokesperson said that iPhone is the most secure consumer mobile device, and "we work tirelessly every day to protect all our users from new and emerging threats".

"We sympathise with users who have had this experience and we take all attacks on our users very seriously, no matter how rare," the spokesperson was quoted as saying.

"We will continue to advance the protections to help keep user accounts secure." Nearly all of the victims had their iPhones stolen while they were out at night socialising at public places, pubs and bars.

In all cases, the iPhone owners were locked out of their Apple accounts.

"They then discovered thousands of dollars in financial thefts, including some combination of Apple Pay charges, drained bank accounts linked to phone apps and money taken from PayPal's Venmo and other money-sending apps," the report elaborated.

The same vulnerability is there in Google's Android mobile operating system but the "higher resale value of iPhones makes them a far more common target", according to law enforcement officials.

"Our sign-in and account-recovery policies try to strike a balance between allowing legitimate users to retain access to their accounts in real-world scenarios and keeping the bad actors out," a Google spokesperson was quoted as saying.

Apple recently introduced the ability to use hardware security keys, little USB dongles, to protect the Apple ID.

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E-Auction Notice
(For sale of Immovable Mortgaged Property under the SARFAESI Act, 2002)
[Refer Proviso to rule 8(6)]

1. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and to the borrowers and guarantors in particular that the below mentioned immovable properties mortgaged to The Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd., Business Unit Lajpat Nagar, Delhi as security for the Credit facility/ies extended in favour of M/S Trans Asian Industries Exposition Pvt. Ltd, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised officer of the bank under Section 13(4) of the SARFAESI Act, will be sold through E-auction on "AS IS WHERE IS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" and "WHATSOEVER THERE IS BASIS AND NO COMPLAINT BASIS" on 15-03-2023, for recovery of Rs.32,58,83,505.18 (Rupees Thirty Two Crore Fifty Eight Lacs Eighty Three Thousand Five Hundred Five & Paise Eighteen Only) as on 31.01.2023 with further interest, costs & charges etc., thereon due to the bank from the borrowers(s), mortgagor(s) and guarantors Viz:-
M/S Trans Asian Industries Exposition Pvt. Ltd, Head Office Address- Nishat, Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir -190001, also at M-1, Hauz Khas Main Mehroli Road, New Delhi-110016. (Borrower)
Mr. Mohd. Yaseen Mir (Director/Guarantor) S/O Late Mr. Abdul Qayoom Mir R/O Ishbar, Gupta Ganga, Nishat, Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir -190001
Mr. Mohd. Hanief Mir, (Director/Guarantor) S/O Late Mr. Abdul Qayoom Mir R/O Ishbar, Gupta Ganga, Nishat, Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir -190001
Mr. Imran Malik S/O Mr. Riyaz Malik R/O Wanabal Srinagar/also at Ishbar, Gupta Ganga Nishat, Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir -190001 (Guarantor)

Description of Mortgaged Property	Reserve Price	EMD
Villa No. 8, Block-D, Ansal Villas, Village Satbari, Tehsil- Mehrauli, New Delhi along with land underneath & appurtenant thereto located in Khasra no. 812 min (4-3) and Khasra no. 813 min (3-10) admeasuring 7 bighas and 13 biswas (1.607 acres) in the name of M/S Trans Asian Industries Exposition Pvt. Ltd.	Rs. 24.00 Crore (Rupees Twenty Four Crore Only)	Rs. 2.40 Crore (Rupees Two Crore Forty Lac Only)

2. The bid document/format containing full details of the properties and all the terms and conditions is/shall be available on, the websites- "http://sarfaesi.auctiontieg.net" (contact persons Mr. Ram Prasad (M) 9978591888, 9265562921 (O) 079-6813 6844) & www.jkbank.com of the Jammu and Kashmir Bank Ltd. The bids complete in all respects can be only submitted online by or before 04:00 PM on 14.03.2023. The time of E-Auction will be from 3:00 PM to 04:00 PM on 15.03.2023. The contact details of the bank officials are: Mr. Khuram Jah Rasooli (Authorized Officer) Mob: 7006309750 & Branch Head Lajpat Nagar Mr. Naresh Kumar, Mob: 9419199749.

Sd/-
(Mr. Khuram Jah Rasooli)
Authorized Officer
The J&K Bank Ltd

This publication is also 15 days' notice in terms of Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 to the borrowers/mortgagors/guarantors of the above said loan accounts to pay the total outstanding of all the loans along with the interests and expenses before the date of auction, failing which the property will be auctioned and balance if any along with interests and expenses will be recovered from them.

Date: 27.02.2023
Place: Gurugram Haryana
Authorized Officer

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DIPK-NB-6639/22 dated: 27-02-2023

SC Dismisses PIL Seeking Renaming Of Places Named After 'Foreign Invaders'

Press Trust of India

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Monday dismissed a PIL seeking constituting of a 'renaming commission' to restore 'original' names of ancient, cultural and religious places "renamed" by invaders, saying India can't be a prisoner of the past.

A bench of Justices KM Joseph and BV Nagarathna questioned the motive of the PIL filed by lawyer Ashwini Upadhyay, saying it will bring alive those issues, "which would keep the country on boil".

The bench said, "This



is a fact that our country was invaded and ruled by a foreign power. We cannot wish out selected part of our history".

The top court told Upadhyay, "our country is secu-

lar and Hinduism is a way of life, which has assimilated everyone and there is no bigotry in it".

It also said the history of the country should not haunt its present and fu-

ture generations.

Upadhyay had earlier this month filed the PIL, seeking a direction to the Centre to constitute a 'renaming commission' to restore the "original" names of ancient historical, cultural and religious places which were "renamed" by foreign invaders.

While Mughal Garden was recently renamed Amrit Udyan, the government did nothing to rename the roads named after invaders, the PIL said and contended that the continuation of these names is against the sovereignty and other civil rights guaranteed under

the Constitution.

The PIL said alternatively, the court may direct the Archaeological Survey of India to research and publish the initial names of ancient historical and cultural religious places, which were renamed by "barbaric foreign invaders" to secure the Right to Information under the Constitution.

The PIL said, "We are celebrating the 75th anniversary of independence but there are many ancient historical cultural religious places in the name of brutal foreign invaders, their servants and family members". PTI

UIDAI Rolls Out New Security Mechanism For Robust Fingerprint-Based Aadhaar Authentication

Agenceis

New Delhi: The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has rolled out a new security mechanism for Aadhaar-based fingerprint authentication and faster detection of spoofing attempts, an official release said on Monday.

The artificial intelligence and machine learning (AI/ML) based security mechanism which has been developed in-house is now using a "combination of both finger minutia and finger image" to check the liveness of the fingerprint captured.

UIDAI in a statement announced the new security mechanism for robust fingerprint-based Aadhaar authentication, and said "this is making Aadhaar authentication transactions even more robust and secure".

"The new two-factor/layer authentication is adding add-on checks to validate the genuineness (liveness) of the fingerprint so as to further cut down the

chances of spoofing attempts," the release added.

The development is expected to be of immense use in segments such as banking and financials, telecom and government sectors. It will strengthen the Aadhaar-enabled payment system and curb malicious attempts by unscrupulous elements, thus benefiting the 'bottom of the pyramid'.

"The new security mechanism for Aadhaar-based fingerprint authentication has now become fully functional. The rollout and migration happened after months of discussion and hand-holding by UIDAI of its partners and user agencies," the release added.

A constant engagement and due diligence of UIDAI with authentication user agencies (AUAs) were carried out to inform them (AUAs/ Sub AUAs) about the benefit of the new system.

AUA is an entity engaged in providing Aadhaar-enabled ser-

vices to 12-digit ID holders using authentication as facilitated by the authentication service agency. Sub-AUAs are agencies that use Aadhaar authentication to enable their services through an existing requesting entity.

The UIDAI head office and its regional offices are in touch with all entities for facilitating any user agency (that may not have migrated yet) to switch over to the new secured authentication mode, at the earliest.

The adoption of Aadhaar-based authentication transactions has been on an upward trend as it has proved to be a facilitator in availing several welfare benefits and services.

"By the end of December 2022, a cumulative number of Aadhaar authentication transactions had crossed 88.29 billion and clocking an average per day transactions of 70 million. A majority of them are fingerprint-based authentications, indicative of its usage and utility in daily lives," the release added.

CBSE Cautions Students Against Rumours About Question Paper Leaks

Agenceis

New Delhi: The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) on Monday cautioned students and parents against rumours about question papers for board exams being leaked.

The board has also warned students against indulging in rumour-mongering and has stated that action will be taken against them as per "unfair means" rules, if any involvement is found.

"It has come to the notice of the board that certain unscrupulous elements are regularly spreading rumours on YouTube, Facebook, Twitter and other social media platforms about paper leak or claiming to have access to question papers of 2023 exams," a senior board official said.

"These persons, groups and agencies intend to fleece the gullible students and parents as they demand money in return. Such irresponsible activities create confusion and panic among the students and public. The board is vigilant and active in identifying and taking action against those spreading fake news and rumours," he added.

Classes 10 and 12 CBSE board exams are currently underway and will conclude on April 5.



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