

Hot, Humid Weather To Continue In J&K

Agencies

Srinagar, Aug 16: As maximum temperature remained 1-2°C above normal at most places of Jammu and Kashmir, the weather department on Monday said no significant relief from hot and humid weather conditions was expected for the next few days. "Today, maximum temperature remained 1-2°C above normal at most places of J&K. Same conditions are likely for the next 2-3 days. No significant relief from hot & humid conditions expected," a meteorological department official here said. "From 16th-22nd August, mainly hot, humid & dry weather is expected in Jammu and Kashmir," he said. However, he said, there was a possibility of rain/thundershower at isolated places towards late afternoon and evening during the period "although chances are less". As regards **More on PIO**

Mobile Addiction Causing Communication Disorders Among People In J&K: Survey

57.6 Percent Females, 42.4% Males In Kashmir Identified To Have Communication Disorders

Majid Nabi

Srinagar: A new survey on communication disorders has revealed shocking details about the mobile phone addiction among the people, mostly the younger generation of Jammu and Kashmir. The door-to-door survey was conducted by the Health Parliament, the International Patients' Union and the Delhi Branch of the Indian Speech & Hearing Association in Jammu and Kashmir and Delhi from May to June 2023. In the twin regions of Jammu and Kashmir, over 6000 individuals from 1257 families were surveyed. In Kashmir, 57.6% of the females and 42.4% of males were identified to have communication disorders, whereas, in



Jammu, 66.4% of the male population and 33.6% of the female population were identified with communication disorders. Notably, the survey revealed a prevalence rate of 3.05% for communication disorders in the Delhi-NCR area, 6.17% in

Kashmir and 2.4% in Jammu. The survey was conducted by professionals and student volunteers in the field of speech and hearing to identify individuals with communication disorders. Among the specific

6 THE STUDY'S RESULTS HAVE SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS FOR HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS, policymakers, and researchers. Understanding the prevalence rates of different communication disorders helps in resource allocation and targeted interventions."

communication disorders examined during the survey, language disorders were the most prevalent, accounting for 19.73% of cases. Fluency disorders followed closely, representing 13.46% of reported cases. Speech Sound disorders and voice disorders were also significant contributors, constituting 14.19% and 7.49% of cases, respectively. Ear and hearing issues were the most common communication disorders, with a substantial prevalence rate of 53.47%.

In addition to the primary communication disorders, the study also investigated less common conditions. Balance (vestibular disorders) and associated complaints were reported by 4.87% and 7.06% of participants, respectively. It is essential to acknowledge these less common disorders to ensure comprehensive diagnosis and appropriate support for affected individuals. Furthermore, the study highlighted that 19.85% of participants **More on PIO**

Man Gets Life Term For Killing Minor Son

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: A court in Ramban on Wednesday sentenced a man to life imprisonment for poisoning to death his two-year-old son in the Jammu and Kashmir district about 10 years ago. District and Sessions Judge, Ramban, R S Jasrotia convicted Mohd Shafi, a resident of Ind village, in the murder of his son Mohd Suleman, a police spokesperson said. He said the boy was found dead under suspicious circumstances at his home on October 30, 2013 and during the course of inquiry, it came to the fore that Shafi had given poisonous insecticide to the child, causing his death. Accordingly, a murder case was registered on November 30, 2013 and the chargesheet was filed against the accused in the court on January 26, 2014, the spokesman said. He said Shafi was finally awarded rigorous imprisonment for life and slapped with a **More on PIO**

ARTICLE 370 HEARING

SC Asks If Parl Can Enact Law To Divide J&K Into Two UTs

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Wednesday asked whether Parliament could have enacted the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, which divided the erstwhile state into two union territories, during the subsistence of President's Rule in 2018-2019. The Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Bill was tabled and passed by the Rajya Sabha on August 5, 2019 and was tabled and passed by the Lok Sabha the next day. It received presidential assent on August 9, 2019. A five-judge bench headed by Chief Justice DY



Chandrachud posed this question to senior advocate Rajeev Dhavan, appearing for Jammu and Kashmir People's Conference, which has, apart from challenging the abrogation of Article

370 of the Constitution, contested the imposition of President's Rule in the erstwhile state on December 19, 2018 and its extension on July 3, 2019 for six months. **More on PIO**

All Schools To Be 'Disabled Friendly' By 2024: DSEK

Agencies

Srinagar: Following the directives of National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), School Education Department Wednesday said that it will make all 'schools disabled friendly' by 2024 and will ensure all provisions for specially abled students. Director of School Education Kashmir while referring to the directives of NHRC asked all Chief Education Officers (CEOs) of the region to implement Section 45 of Rights of persons with disabilities Act. Section 45 of Rights of persons with disabilities Act says that "All existing public buildings shall be made accessible in accordance with the rules formulated by the Central Government within a period not exceeding five years from the date of notification of such rules"

"PART II - (2) The appropriate Government and the local authorities shall formulate and publish an action plan based on prioritization, for providing accessibility in all their buildings and spaces providing essential services such as all primary health centres, civil hospitals, schools, railway stations and bus stops". "The department of School Education shall endeavor to make all schools disabled friendly by 2024 and in this connection access audit of all schools, on priority High and higher secondary schools need to be conducted within the next three months in consultation with persons with disabilities and the organizations working for the disability sector," DSEK said. It also said that the department of School education **More on PIO**

Centrally Heated Vande Bharat Trains In J&K Soon

Agencies

Srinagar: Integral Coach Factory is all set to roll out Vande Bharat trains with central heating facilities inside the compartments for the Jammu and Kashmir next year, an official said here on Wednesday. The official said that these trains will have heating facilities inside the compartments and for the water lines and will also have special pipes to prevent freezing and breaking. He said that this is part of the plan to design and manufacture different variants of the Vande Bharat trains. "This train will have improved interiors, and best-in-class passenger amenities as provided in Vande Bharat trains. A specially designed locomotive will be connected to the train at each end for push pull operation, to enable it to travel faster," he added. The official **More on PIO**

Ministry of Finance
Government of India

Amnesty Schemes under GST

- For Non-Filers of GSTR-4 | GSTR-9 | GSTR-10 | Returns
- For Revocation of Cancellation of Registration
- For deemed withdrawal of Best Judgement Assessment order

Don't miss this opportunity!

Last date has been extended till 31.08.2023

Avail the Benefits and become a Compliant Taxpayer

GST Amnesty Scheme	For more details, please refer
Late fee for filing of FORM GSTR-4 returns for the quarters from July 2017 to March 2019 or for the F.Ys. from 2019-20 to 2021-22 has been reduced to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nil for Nil returns • ₹ 500/- (₹ 250/- CGST + ₹ 250/- SGST) for other than Nil returns if returns are filed on or before 31.08.2023	Notification No. 22/2023-Central Tax dated 17.07.2023 read with Notification No.02/2023 -Central Tax dated 31.03.2023 and Principal Notification No. 73/2017-Central Tax dated 29.12.2017
Maximum late fee is restricted to ₹ 20,000/- (₹ 10,000/- CGST + ₹ 10,000/- SGST) for filing of Annual Return in FORM GSTR-9 for any, of the F.Ys. from 2017-18 to 2021-22, if filed on or before 31.08.2023	Notification No. 25/2023-Central Tax dated 17.07.2023 read with Notification No. 07/2023-Central Tax dated 31.03.2023
Late fee for filing of Final Return in FORM GSTR-10 has been reduced to ₹ 1,000/- (₹ 500/- CGST + ₹ 500/- SGST), if filed on or before 31.08.2023	Notification No. 26/2023-Central Tax dated 17.07.2023 read with Notification No. 08/2023-Central Tax dated 31.03.2023
Registered persons whose registration was cancelled on or before 31.12.2022 due to non-filing of returns, may file application for revocation of cancellation of registration after filing of all returns pending upto the effective date of cancellation of registration alongwith payment of due tax, interest, penalty and late fee thereon on or before 31.08.2023	Notification No. 23/2023-Central Tax dated 17.07.2023 read with Notification No. 03/2023-Central Tax dated 31.03.2023
Best Judgement Assessment orders issued on or before 28.02.2023 for non-furnishing of valid FORM GSTR-3B returns will be deemed to be withdrawn if such returns are filed on or before 31.08.2023 alongwith payment of due tax, interest and late fee thereon	Notification No. 24/2023-Central Tax dated 17.07.2023 read with Notification No. 06/2023-Central Tax dated 31.03.2023

For more details, please scan



Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs

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SHORT TAKES

2 Bovine Smugglers Arrested In Samba

Two notorious bovine smugglers were arrested and cattle being smuggled to Kashmir valley from Samba district rescued, police said on Wednesday. A vehicle used for smuggling of bovines in Rakh Amb Talli falling under the jurisdiction of Samba police station was seized, they said. The arrested smugglers have been identified as Teg Ali and **More on PIO**

843 More Leave For Amarnath Yatra

A batch of 834 pilgrims on Wednesday left a base camp here for the Kashmir Valley under tight security to undertake the annual Amarnath pilgrimage, officials said. The 39th batch comprising 614 males, 146 females, 67 seers and seven children left the Bhagwati Nagar base camp, in a convoy of 27 vehicles, **More on**

Teenager Drowns In Sindh Stream

A teenager died on Wednesday after drowning in Sindh stream in Central Kashmir's Ganderbal district. Haziq Intiyaz lost balance and slipped into the gushing waters of Sindh stream near the newly constructed Wayil Bridge on Wednesday afternoon, reports said. Instantly, an operation was launched to rescue the teenager. **More on PIO**

Mother's Healthy Diet Can Ensure Good Brain Health Of Her Grandchildren

Press Trust Of India

Mothers who eat apples and herbs during their early pregnancy could be protecting the brain health of their children and grandchildren, a Monash University study using genetic models has found.

The discovery is part of a project that found a mother's diet can affect not just her child's brain but also those of her grandchildren.

Published in Nature Cell Biology, the Monash Biomedical Discovery Institute study found that certain foods could help prevent the deterioration of brain function.

This study used roundworms (Caenorhabditis elegans) as the genetic model because many of their genes are also found in humans, allowing insights into human cells.

The researchers found that a certain molecule present in apples and herbs such as basil, rosemary, thyme, oregano, and sage helped in reducing the breakdown of communication cables needed for the brain to work properly.

Senior professor Roger Pocock, with his team, investigated nerve cells in the brain that connect with each other through about 8,500,000 kilometres of cables called axons. For axons to function and survive, essential materials need to be transported along an internal structure that contains microtubules.



Pocock explained that a malfunction that caused the axons to become fragile can lead to brain dysfunction and neurodegeneration.

He said his team used a genetic model with fragile axons that break as animals age. We tried to find whether natural products found in the diet can stabilise these axons and prevent breakage, he explained.

We identified a molecule found in apples and herbs that reduces axon fragility -- ursolic acid. How? We found that ursolic acid causes a gene to turn on that makes a specific type of fat. This particular fat also prevented axon fragility as animals age by improving axon transport and therefore its overall health.

Pocock said this type of fat, known as a sphingolipid, had to travel from the mother's intestine, where food is digested, to eggs in the uterus for it to protect axons in the next generation. He said while the results were promising, they still need to be confirmed in humans.

This is the first time that a lipid/fat has been shown to be inherited, he said. Further, feeding the mother the sphingolipid protects the axons of two subsequent generations. This means a mother's diet can affect not just their offspring's brain but potentially subsequent generations. Our work supports a healthy diet during pregnancy for optimal brain development and health, Pocock said.

The Jammu And Kashmir Board Of School Education
 New Campus Bemina Srinagar

I have passed/appeared in Secondary School Examination (Class- 10th) under Roll No. 312003030 Session: Annual Regular Year 2023 through the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education. Due to the error committed by the concerned School/parent/Board against my Mother's Name a Shameema Begum instead of Shameema



Now, I have applied for correction/rectification of error in the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education, New Campus Bemina, Srinagar, if any person has any objection in this regard, may file the same in the office of the Assistant Secretary, Certificates-KD within seven days from the date of Publication of this notice, after the expiry of said period no objection will be entertained.

Name: Aabroo Jahan
F/N: Ab Sattar Magray
M/N: Shameema Begum
DOB : 05-06-2008
Residence: Lowdara Bandipora

bb

PUBLIC NOTICE

I want to correct the mother's name of my daughter, Zehra Babar, a student of 5th class at Presentation Convent Higher Secondary School, Rajbagh from Ishrat Babar to Ishrat Rasool (as per official records). Anybody having any objection may contact the school authority within a period of 7 days. No objection will be entertained after stipulated time.

Babar Hafeez
F/o Zehra Babar
Mob: 9419069038

zd

PUBLIC NOTICE

I want to correct the mother's name of my son, Muhammad Ahaan Babar, a student of 4th class at The Kashmir Valley School, Humhama from Ishrat Babar to Ishrat Rasool (as per official records). Anybody having any objection may contact the school authority within a period of 7 days. No objection will be entertained after stipulated time.

Babar Hafeez
F/o Muhammad Ahaan Babar
Mob: 9419069038

zd

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost the Number Plate of my vehicle bearing Regd No: JK04C 2032 while travelling from Poskhar To Magam . Now I have applied for the duplicate of the same if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the ARTO Budgam within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Javid Ahmad Mir
S/o Muzaffar Ahmad Mir
R/o Alamnaag Poskhar Budgam

bmg

From the office of Advocate Ruqiya Aziz

In the case of : Munawar Abbas s/o Gulam Mohammad Hajam R/o kathimadan almagari bazar sgr.

(Caveator)

VS
PUBLIC AT LARGE
 In the Petition in terms of Section 148-A

The caveators have reason to believe that Non-Caveator may file any Application, Petition, Ap- peal, Suit or any other type of proceeding before the Hon'ble Court and on the ground of distorted facts/misrepresentation and cooked story and may seed in obtaining some relief/order at their back/in exparte against the caveators and in such eventuality the caveators will be put in irrepa- rable loss and inconvenience. It would be proper that caveator be given an opportunity of being heard by the Hon'ble court before passing any order.

nj

Sd/advocate
 Ruqiya aziz

KHAWAJA FAMILY BEREAVED.

It is to inform with grief and sorrow that wife of Late Khawaja Qazim Ali resident of Gund Khawaja Qasim and sister of Haji Ghulam Hussain Khawaja resident of Nabdipora Zaidal left for heavenly abode on 16th August Wednesday 2023 after a brief illness. She was buried in her ancestral graveyard at Gund Khawaja Qasim.

She was pious, down to earth and staunch believer of Ahlubait [A.S] Her congregational prayers would be held on 18th August Friday 2023 at the residence of Haji Ghulam Hussain Khawaja at Nabdipora Zaidal. The congregational prayers will be held at the house of her brother Haji Ghulam Hassan Khawaja resident of Nabdipora Zaidal all day .

BEREAVED:
9419002857
9469042512
9906030000 ag

PUBLIC NOTICE

My Name has been wrongly written in my J&K Bank Account as Tawheed Khurshed while my correct name as per aadhaar is Tawheed Alam Bhat which needs to be corrected. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Branch Manager J&K Bank Rangreth within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Tawheed Alam Bhat
S/o Khurshed Ahmad Bhat
R/o Lachman pora kerawa danoodar, SK Airport.
Branch J&K Bank Rangreth inf

ASF ENTERPRISES

Sale and Services of Computers 2nd. Floor Munir Manzil Regal Chowk Srinagar [J&K] , Ph.0194-24 77949, 9419001176, 9419776235

Sale and Sendee of Laptops. Desktops. Printers, Photocopiers. Faxes, , CCTV Cameras, Security System and Refilling of all Types of Cartridges, Toners Registered Government order Suppliers.

Style "M/s Exotic Escape Tour and Travels" situated at "New Airport Road Humhama, Srinagar"

Public Notice

Whereas, I Mr./Ms. Irshad Ahmad S/o/D/o/W/o Mr. Abdul Ahad Sheikh R/O Sheikhpora, Chattergam, Budgam 191113, Kashmir intends to apply in the Department of Tourism for Registration of my proposed Travel Unit under the name and style "M/s Exotic Escape Tour and Travels" situated at "New Airport Road Humhama, Srinagar, -Kashmir under Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011-12.

Whereas, I will submit State Subject/Domicile Certificate, Qualification Certificate, Pan Card, Experience Certificate (Minimum 05 Years), (Character Certificate (Police Department), (Bank Statement (Minimum Balance 10000), (Site Plan, Affidavit, Rent Deed duly attested by Sub-Registrar, Printing Material (Letter Head/Visiting Card), (Photograph of the Unit (Indoor and Outdoor) and Two Passport size photographs to the Department of Tourism as per prescribed checklist prior to Registration of my unit as an Excursion Agency/Adventure tour operator.

Now as per J&K Registration of Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011/12, before my case is processed for registration by the Competent Authority, the matter is of general Public/Financial hereby notified for information Institutions/Bank/Organization, etc for objection, if any and the same should reach to the Deputy Director, Tourism Registration (e-mail Id:-ddtreg 123@gmail.com) within a period of 7 days from the publication of this notice in leading local newspaper/newspapers of the valley. No objections beyond a period of 7 days shall be entertained.

inf

از عدالت ایڈیشنل ڈسٹرکٹ جج (بنک مقدمات) سرینگر
 با اجلاس: اروند شرما
J&K BANK B/U: KHANYAR SGR
بنام
Masrat Ara
Rs:190712/= دعوئی وصولیائی رقم مبلغ
اشتہار بمراد آگاہی بنام
 Masrat Ara W/o: Altaf Ahmad Bhat
 R/o: Koolipora Khanyar Sgr
 مقدمہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں مدعا علیہ/ مدعا علیہ کی تیسرا گوشہ کی گئی
 - الا ن تویہ جدید پر مدعا علیہ/ مدعا علیہ دستیاب ہوئے اور نہ ہی بذریعہ معین تیسرا لائی
 گئی۔ بدین وجہ حسب استنادی مدعا علیہ/ مدعا علیہ جو بذریعہ اشتہار ہذا مطلع کیا جاتا
 ہے کہ آپ کے خلاف مقدمہ بعنوان بالا اجراء بغرض وصولی رقم مبلغ
Rs:190712/= زیر ساعت عدالت ہذا ہے۔
 لہذا آپ کو بذریعہ اشتہار ہذا مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ آپ بغرض بیرونی اہراء ہذا بعنوان
 بالا مورخہ 18.08.2023 اصالتاً یا دکالتاً بروقت پتھری حاضر آ کر مقدمہ ہذا کی
 بیرونی کریں۔ بصورت عدم حاضری حسب ضابطہ کارروائی عمل لائی جائے گی۔ تحریر
 ایڈیشنل ڈسٹرکٹ جج (بنک مقدمات) سرینگر
 nj

از عدالت ایڈیشنل ڈسٹرکٹ جج (بنک مقدمات) سرینگر
 با اجلاس: اروند شرما
J&K BANK B/U: KHANYAR SGR
بنام
Yasmeena
Rs:116565/= دعوئی وصولیائی رقم مبلغ
اشتہار بمراد آگاہی بنام
 Yasmeena W/o: Parvez Ahmad Waja
 R/o: Aquilmir Khanyar, Sgr
 مقدمہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں مدعا علیہ/ مدعا علیہ کی تیسرا گوشہ کی گئی
 - الا ن تویہ جدید پر مدعا علیہ/ مدعا علیہ دستیاب ہوئے اور نہ ہی بذریعہ معین تیسرا لائی
 گئی۔ بدین وجہ حسب استنادی مدعا علیہ/ مدعا علیہ جو بذریعہ اشتہار ہذا مطلع کیا جاتا
 ہے کہ آپ کے خلاف مقدمہ بعنوان بالا اجراء بغرض وصولی رقم مبلغ
Rs:116565/= زیر ساعت عدالت ہذا ہے۔
 لہذا آپ کو بذریعہ اشتہار ہذا مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ آپ بغرض بیرونی اہراء ہذا بعنوان
 بالا مورخہ 18.08.2023 اصالتاً یا دکالتاً بروقت پتھری حاضر آ کر مقدمہ ہذا کی
 بیرونی کریں۔ بصورت عدم حاضری حسب ضابطہ کارروائی عمل لائی جائے گی۔ تحریر
 ایڈیشنل ڈسٹرکٹ جج (بنک مقدمات) سرینگر
 nj

از عدالت ایڈیشنل ڈسٹرکٹ جج (بنک مقدمات) سرینگر
 با اجلاس: اروند شرما
J&K BANK B/U: KHANYAR SGR
بنام
Mubeena
Rs:1,33,718/= دعوئی وصولیائی رقم مبلغ
اشتہار بمراد آگاہی بنام
 Mubeena W/o: Abdul Majeed Khar
 R/o: Abi Karpura Khar Mohalla Sgr
 مقدمہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں مدعا علیہ/ مدعا علیہ کی تیسرا گوشہ کی گئی
 - الا ن تویہ جدید پر مدعا علیہ/ مدعا علیہ دستیاب ہوئے اور نہ ہی بذریعہ معین تیسرا لائی
 گئی۔ بدین وجہ حسب استنادی مدعا علیہ/ مدعا علیہ جو بذریعہ اشتہار ہذا مطلع کیا جاتا
 ہے کہ آپ کے خلاف مقدمہ بعنوان بالا اجراء بغرض وصولی رقم مبلغ
Rs:1,33,718/= زیر ساعت عدالت ہذا ہے۔
 لہذا آپ کو بذریعہ اشتہار ہذا مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ آپ بغرض بیرونی اہراء ہذا بعنوان
 بالا مورخہ 18.08.2023 اصالتاً یا دکالتاً بروقت پتھری حاضر آ کر مقدمہ ہذا کی
 بیرونی کریں۔ بصورت عدم حاضری حسب ضابطہ کارروائی عمل لائی جائے گی۔ تحریر
 ایڈیشنل ڈسٹرکٹ جج (بنک مقدمات) سرینگر
 nj

از عدالت جوڈیشل مجسٹریٹ فنٹ کلاس (ٹنگرگ)
 با اجلاس تو قیل احمدیر
سائل اسامہ Nazir Ahmad Dar
 درخواست بغرض اندراج تاریخ پیدائش
 نام: Nazir Ahmad Dar
 تاریخ پیدائش: 14-03-2009
 معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں سائل اسامہ نے عدالت ہذا میں ایک درخواست بشمول
 بیان حلفی بغرض اندراج تاریخ پیدائش Safoora Nazeer & Javid Ahmad Dar
 S/D/O : Nazeer Ahmad Dar R/o Bunsharan
 مورخہ 14-08-2023 پیش کی ہے۔ لہذا انعام الناس کو بذریعہ اشتہار مطلع کیا جاتا
 ہے کہ نسبت درخواست کوئی عدالت اعتراض ہونے کی صورت میں اپنے عدالت
 اشاعت اشتہار کے اندر سے عدالت میں آ کر پیش کرے۔ بعد گزرنے معیاد کوئی عدالت
 یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔ تاریخ آئندہ عدالت ہذا میں 26-08-2023
 کو قتر ہے۔
 تحریر الصدر
 BMG

از عدالت سب جج سیشنل موبائل مجسٹریٹ پتھریکس ٹیمپریٹو وٹس سرینگر (PT&E)
 با اجلاس: فاروقہ نذیر
سائل اسامہ Subreena Jan
 درخواست بغرض اندراج تاریخ پیدائش
 نام: Subreena Jan
 تاریخ پیدائش: 14-09-1994
 معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں سائل اسامہ نے عدالت ہذا میں ایک درخواست
 بشمول حلفی بغرض اندراج تاریخ پیدائش Subreena Jan
 D/o Irshad Ahmad Rather R/o Wanganpora Eidgah Srinagar
 مورخہ 04-08-2023 پیش کی ہے۔ لہذا انعام الناس کو بذریعہ اشتہار مطلع کیا
 جاتا ہے کہ نسبت درخواست کوئی عدالت اعتراض ہونے کی صورت میں اپنے
 عدالت اشاعت اشتہار کے اندر سے عدالت میں آ کر پیش کرے۔ بعد گزرنے
 معیاد کوئی عدالت یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔ تاریخ آئندہ عدالت ہذا میں
 17-08-2023 کو قتر ہے۔
 تحریر الصدر
 nj

اطلاع عام
 میں مظہر نذیر احمد ڈار (پشو) ولد غلام رسول ساکن بمنہ نے ایک
 پلاٹ نمبر 207 (1B) سیکٹر 1B سائز (30x50) شاہ ہمدان کالونی
 بمنہ میں معراج الدین ولد غلام نبی ساکن گزرنہ بل پتھریکس سرینگر سے
 خرید لیا تھا۔ اب مظہر کو مذکورہ پلاٹ نمبر اپنے نام پر کرنا مطلوب ہے۔ اس
 سلسلے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی اعتراض ہے تو وہ سات دن کے اندر اپنا
 اعتراض یا عدالت تحریر ال ایس ڈی سے سرینگر کے دفتر میں پیش کریں۔ معیاد
 گزرنے کے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض یا عدالت قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
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 نذیر احمد ڈار (پشو) ولد غلام رسول ساکن بمنہ
 inf

Aspirants Urge Admin To Clarify Whether PG Electronics Can Apply For CRC Posts

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Students who have already completed their masters in electronics have requested the education department to clarify if they are eligible for posts of 'cluster resource coordinator for teaching support'.

Last week, the education department advertised posts of Cluster Resource Coordinators for teaching support and 55 posts for physics subjects.

Scores of PG electronics aspirants said the department has not clarified whether they can apply or not and if they will be treated at par with PG physics.

They said as education evolves, "interdisciplinary knowledge becomes increasingly important and the field of Electronics shares fundamental principles with Physics and is fundamentally the applied branch of Physics, MSc Electronics students possess a solid foundation in scientific principles, mathematics, and analytical thinking - all of which are essential qualities for a Physics lecturer".

"By opening the eligibility criteria to MSc Electronics graduates, we can tap into a pool of potential educators who can bring a fresh perspective and valuable insights to the Physics department," aspirants added.

The CSIR conducts NET in Physical sciences in which all applied branches of Physics including electronics are eligible to appear.

"Their diverse backgrounds can enrich classroom discussions, foster cross-disciplinary collaboration, and bring real-world applications to traditional Physics concepts," they said.

They requested the School Education Department to review and consider amending the eligibility criteria for lecturer positions in the Physics department and include MSc Electronics post graduates.

"This change can not only enhance the quality of education but also encourage cross-pollination of ideas between different scientific disciplines," they said.

They requested the higher ups to look into the matter at the earliest.

KUs CCPC Conducts Recruitment Drive For Pharmacists

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The University of Kashmir's Centre for Career Planning and Counseling (CCPC) in collaboration with the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences organized a recruitment drive for pharmacists through HLL Lifecare Limited, a central public sector enterprise under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

Interviews were conducted here at CCPC by the company officials. A total of 106 candidates appeared in the interviews for the posts of Assistant Pharmacists and Pharmacists, out of which 30 candidates are likely to be selected by the company soon after

the completion of the evaluation process.

The selection process included a pre-placement talk, a written test, a group discussion and personal interviews.

Director, CCPC, Prof. Geer Mohammad Ishaq said over the past two years more than one thousand (1,000) vacancies have been made available for the students for placement in various companies through CCPC.

"Campus recruitment for a leading telecom tower management company, Indus Towers, is underway at present for our electrical engineering students", he said adding, CCPC will continue such placement drives in future as well.

VC KU Inaugurates Ground C, JK Premier League

Observer News Service

Srinagar: To encourage the culture of sports and to provide the best quality facilities and infrastructure to youth, the University of Kashmir (KU) inaugurated the long-awaited 'Ground C', a newly established sports ground at the varsity's main campus, while officially inaugurating the Jammu and Kashmir Premier League (JKPL) Wednesday here.

Vice-chancellor, University of Kashmir, Prof Nilofer Khan in presence of Deputy Commissioner (DC), Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad and Commissioner, Srinagar Municipal Corporation

(SMC), Athar Amir officially inaugurated the Ground C throwing it open for sports activities and training that began with the inaugural ceremony of the JKPL, a Twenty20 (T20) cricket tournament.

The ground is a collaborative project between the university and the organizers and promoters of JKPL.

Termining the partnership between KU and JKPL a healthy relation in terms of effective utilization of sports infrastructure and organizing sports events, the vice-chancellor said this will act as a platform to promote sports culture and training of young and talented youth



An elderly man (vegetable seller) rowing shikara in Dal interiors amidst scorching heat on Wednesday. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

Kashmir Shrines, Grand Mosque Offers Polish Tourists Profound Experience Of Spirituality

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A nine-member foreign tourist group from Poland while exploring the beauty and spirituality of Srinagar city Wednesday said the spiritual atmosphere at mosques and shrines of the city is sole soothing that gives solace to every visitor.

Heaping praises on the great architecture of Jamia Masjid and other major shrines in Srinagar, the group said they felt peace and were mesmerized by the beauty and wood work and other craft at mosques and shrines of Srinagar.

"We are on a week's visit to India and will be spending two days in Kashmir," said Ellic, a group member, who is a nature lover, during the group's visit to historic Jamia Masjid in Nowhatta, Srinagar.

"We are nine members and have visited Jamia Masjid Srinagar and a few important shrines of the city. We were captivated by the great art of the grand Masjid

of Kashmir and other shrines including Hazrat Sultan-ul-Arifeen (RA) at Hari Parbat, we felt a unique and soothing atmosphere there."

He said the spiritual atmosphere especially during their visit to Jamia Masjid and other shrines was quite awesome. "Seeing people praying, crying and seeking blessings from God moved us all. Shrines here are beautiful and give solace to every visitor," said Ellic. He said in Srinagar there are so many shrines of sufi saints. "Even though the weather is a bit hotter than Poland, we are feeling happy and comfortable here. The shrine at Hari Parbat gives a breathtaking view of the entire Srinagar city. There is great art, wood work and Kashmiri craft used in almost all shrines which we don't have in Poland."

Praising the tall minarets of Jamia Masjid, Ellic said that it's a decade's old marvel and needs to be preserved. "Mighty pillars and calligraphy inside the masjid

are unique and beautiful. We feel touched. We also feel lucky to be here. God gave us a chance to explore the mosques and shrines of Srinagar," he said.

Another group member said since their country is close to Ukraine, they were observing developments there closely post Ukraine-Russia war. "In Srinagar, we felt a lot of noise of vehicles moving around, but peace prevailing in the air and on ground makes one feel comfortable," he said.

All the nine-members of the group while terming the greenery of Srinagar a nature's gift called for preserving the beauty of the City. Pertinently, J&K LG Manoj Sinha in his Independence Day speech yesterday (August 15) at Bakshi Stadium stated that this year 59 per cent increase was seen in the foreign tourist arrivals while negative travel advisories imposed on J&K by some foreign countries will go away soon.

Media Expert Prof Jethwani Interacts With Students At MERC

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Professor Jaishri Jethwani, a renowned communication and marketing consultant and the director of marketing and advertising at the Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC) New Delhi, engaged in an enlightening interactive session with students from the Media Education Research Centre (MERC) at Kashmir University.

The session was attended by the students including the fresh batch of the PG students, besides the faculty members and scholars of the department.

During the engaging discussion, Prof Jethwani shed light on the evolving media ecosystem and its interconnectedness with technology. Her insights provided a comprehensive understanding

of the intricate world of media dynamics to the participants.

"In the dynamic landscape of the media ecosystem, our reactions to its ever-changing nature are crucial," Professor Jethwani said, adding, "The media, as a multifaceted subject, presents an array of perspectives. When we examine the pluralistic nature of media, the collective influence of various outlets, such as mass media, becomes evident."

Her insights navigated through the intricate web of media infrastructure and supply chains. "The media infrastructure and the intricate supply chains are the unseen gears that facilitate the flow of information. Understanding the dynamics within media, encompassing politics, entertainment, advertising, and even crime, becomes a key component of engaging

with its multifaceted nature," she said.

She discussed the public health scenario in India, particularly the hesitancy surrounding vaccinations. "Our work on public health, especially among children, remains paramount. However, we acknowledge the presence of vaccine hesitancy, a challenge we confront while communicating crucial information," she said.

In a dynamic session that echoed the ever-evolving nature of media, Professor Seema Sangra shed light on the paradigm shift occurring in the industry.

Accompanying her, Professor Seema Sangra, an Associate Professor at Amity University Dubai, engaged students in a thoughtful discourse about the media landscape, its importance, and its transformative potential.

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

PRAYERS

FAJR	4:22
ZUHR	12:35
ASR	5:21
Magrib	7:20
ISHA	8:47

HIJRI CALENDAR
 29 Muharram
 1445

This Day In History

- 1180- Yoritomo Minamoto leads uprising against Kiyomori Taira who installed his grandson, Emperor Antoku, to the throne
- 1544- A French city of Saint-Dizier seized by Imperial army of Holy Roman Emperor Charles V during Italian War (1842-46)
- 1585- Antwerp surrenders after 8 months siege by Duke of Parma
- 1717- France, Russia & Prussia sign agreement
- 1743- Sweden & Russia sign peace treaty
- 1787- Jews are granted permission in Budapest Hungary to pray in groups
- 1788- Losantville, Ohio (now Cincinnati) founded
- 1795- Slave revolt at Knip plantation, Curacao
- 1796- British defeat Batavian navy in Saldanha Bay, South Africa
- 1808- Napoleon asks King Louis for Holland brigade towards Spain
- 1835- Solymon Merrick patents wrench
- 1836- British parliament accept registration of birth/marriage/death
- 1859- 1st air mail (in a balloon) took off from Lafayette, Indiana
- 1862- Confederate troops under Edmund Kirby Smith enter Kentucky
- 1863- Federal batteries & ships attacked Fort Sumter in South Carolina
- 1869- 1st international boat race (River Thames, Oxford beats Harvard)
- 1870- Mrs Esther Morris becomes 1st US woman magistrate (South Pass, Wyoming)
- 1876- Richard Wagner's opera "Götterdämmerung" premieres in Bayreuth
- 1877- American astronomer Asaph Hall discovers Mars' moon Phobos
- 1879- Ferdinand de Lesseps forms French Panama Canal Company
- 1883- The first public performance of the Dominican Republic's national anthem, Himno Nacional
- 1891- Electric self-starter for automobile patented
- 1892- Russian/French generals Obruchev/Boisdeffre signs Double Alliance
- 1897- W B Purvis patents electric railway switch
- 1903- Joe Pulitzer donates \$1 million to Columbia University & begins the Pulitzer Prizes in America
- 1904- Boston's Jesse Tannehill no-hits Chicago White Sox, 6-0
- 1904 -George H. Reid succeeds John Watson as Prime Minister of Australia
- 1905- Dutch government of Theo de Meester begins
- 1907- Bishop forbids Christian membership of Dutch Textile Union
- 1908- Bank of Italy (now Bank of America) opens new HQ, the Bank of Italy building at Clay & Montgomery, San Francisco
- 1908- Booth Tarkington & Harry Leon Wilson's play "Man from Home" premieres in New York
- 1908- Projection in Paris of the very first animated cartoon, "Fantasmagorie" realized by Émile Cohl
- 1914- Lithuania surrenders to Germans
- 1915- German troops over run Kovno, Lithuania
- 1916-Bulgarian offensive in Macedonia
- 1917- Italy declares war on Turkey
- 1918- British troops attack Baku, Azerbaijan
- 1918- Turkish troops overthrow Caucasus
- 1924- French-German trade agreement signed
- 1933-Soviet Union test GIRD-R1 rocket ("Object 09")
- 1938- 1st aircraft owned by US Forest Service in service (Oakland)
- 1940- Hitler orders total blockade of Great Britain
- 1944- Russian troops arrive at Austria-Prussia border
- 1945- Sukarno and Mohammad Hatta declare Indonesia (Dutch East Indies) independent from the Netherlands

PASSPORT CORRECTION

I,Shahi Jhan Bhat Son of Khalil Mohd Bhat resident of Lane 2nd New Theed Harwan Srinagar, hereby announce through this newspaper that in my passport bearing number K6934227, in which my name is written as Shahi Jhan instead of Shahi Jhan Bhat, which is very much required to be corrected. In this regard, if any person or organization has any objection, he should file the same in the Regional Passport Office Srinagar within seven days. No excuse will be accepted after the expiry of the period.
 Shahi Jhan Bhat
 S/O Khalil Mohd Bhat
 R/O Lane 2nd New Theed Harwan, Srinagar

SKUAST KASHMIR
DIVISION OF FRUIT SCIENCE
FACULTY OF HORTICULTURE
 Main Campus Shalimar Srinagar-190025
 Email:- drsimnani@skuastkashmir.ac.in
 No: AU/DOFS/NTFMB/1683 Dated: 16-08-2023

AUCTION NOTICE

It is notified for the information of general public and the timber dealers in particular that open auction of approximately 40 No. of trees of different species at Nut Tree Fruit Mother Block behind the Division of FST main campus Shalimar shall be held on 21st August, 2023 at 2:00 PM at the Division of Fruit Science, Shalimar. Accordingly, all the interested individuals/contractors/parties are informed to be present on the scheduled date & time for conducting the said auction.

The terms & conditions of the auction can be had from the office of Division of Fruit Science during working hours. However, the Divisional Auction Committee reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/-
 Dr. Shamim A. Simnani
 Prof. & Head

KASHMIR OBSERVERTM

Thursday | 17-08-2023

LAC talks

The 19th round of India-China military talks concluded on Tuesday without immediate progress on the pressing issue of Chinese presence in the Depsang Plains. However, both nations have agreed to expedite efforts towards resolving the lingering concerns along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the western sector. The two-day talks, held secretly until the joint statement, marked the first instance of such extensive discussions between the nations.

The joint statement issued by the Indian Ministry of External Affairs and the Chinese foreign ministry revealed that the meetings took place on August 13-14, on the Indian side of the Chushul-Moldo border meeting point. Despite the lack of a breakthrough on the Depsang issue, the statement highlighted the positive and constructive nature of the discussions, which were guided by the leaders of both countries. Both sides have committed to not escalating military build-up along the LAC. The agreement aligns with the prior disengagement from certain disputed areas, including the Galwan Valley, Pangong Tso, Gogra, and Hot Springs.

The discussions also encompassed pre-existing matters such as no patrolling in buffer zones within disputed regions, maintaining the sanctity of airspace, and promoting regular interaction among different command levels. Both nations found common ground on these issues.

The recent talks hold particular significance considering the forthcoming engagements between the Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping. Both leaders are expected to participate in the BRICS summit in Johannesburg, followed by President Xi's visit to India for the G20 Summit. While the prospect for a bilateral meeting between Modi and Xi remains, the focus on building a cooperative framework takes precedence.

Within the context of the current round of discussions, the Depsang Plains issue was a primary concern. This region, part of India's Sub Sector North, has remained disputed, positioned between the Siachen Glacier and the Chinese-controlled Aksai Chin. The Chinese have obstructed Indian patrols beyond certain points, including the bottleneck area or 'Y' Junction. Although Indian forces have the capability to push forward to traditional patrolling points, they have refrained from doing so to avoid heightening tensions.

The talks which have been ongoing since 2020 have yet to yield substantial progress on the Depsang Plains issue. Despite this, the willingness of both sides to engage in open dialogue and confidence-building measures signals their commitment to maintaining peace and stability along the Line of Actual Control. As leaders of the two countries prepare for upcoming summits, the focus should remain on fostering cooperation and resolving existing disputes through diplomatic channels. And the onus to do so squarely falls on China which in the first place staged incursions at five points along the Line of Actual Control.

OTHER OPINION

Inflation Concerns

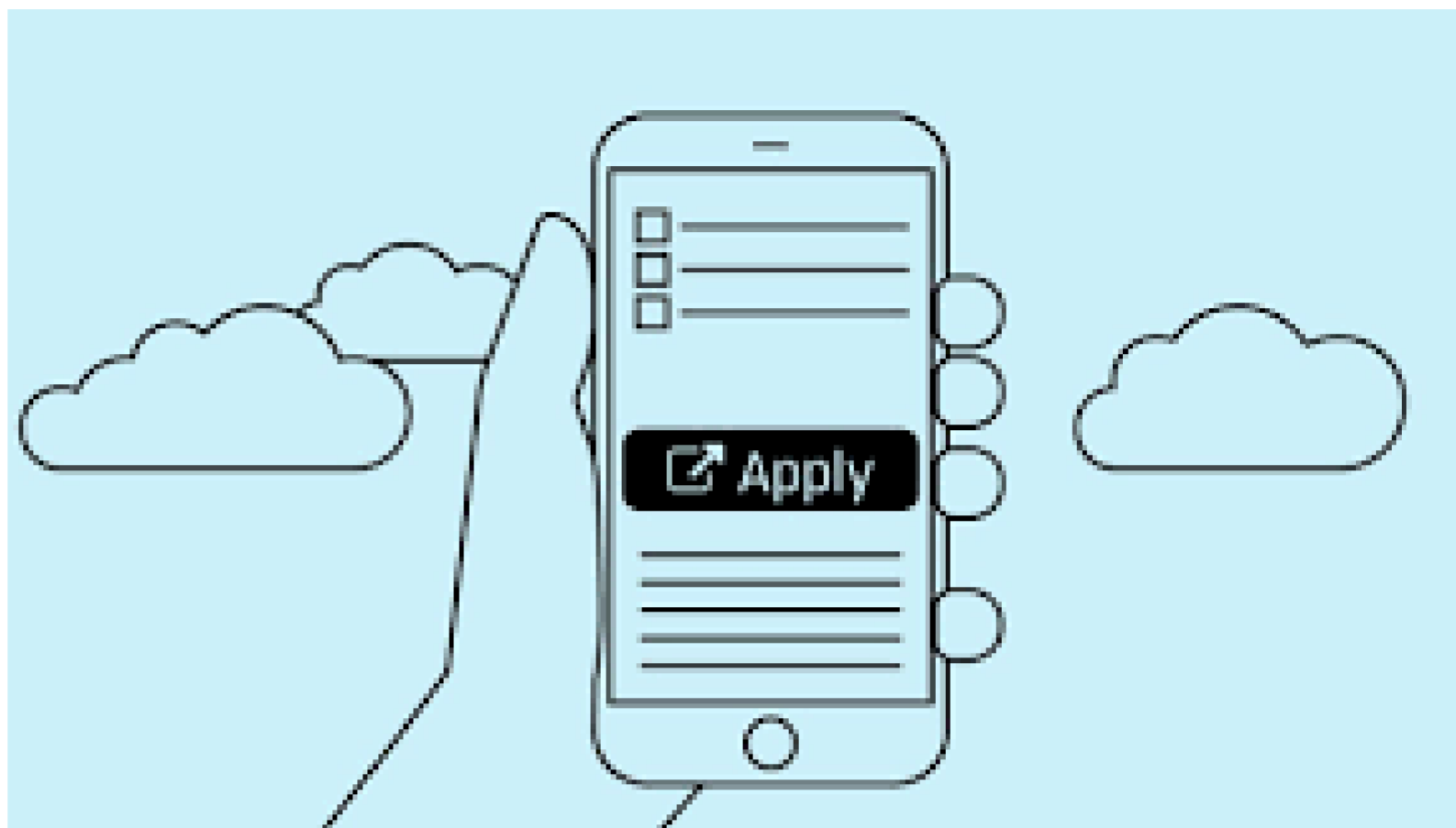
Although there is some uncertainty on the trajectory of food prices, the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) is justified in looking through the recent spike in the cost of vegetables since these are largely supply-side shocks. The comfort from softer core inflation as also the need to assess the impact of the cumulative tightening of 250 basis points have clearly weighed on the decision to leave policy rates untouched at 6.5%. At the same time, there is some bit of stealth hawkishness in the higher inflation forecast of 30 basis points for FY24 to 5.4% and a cash reserve ratio (CRR) hike on incremental deposits.

That the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) would retain its stance at 'withdrawal of accommodation', was widely expected. After all, the central bank has asserted it is determined to tame inflation and bring it down to 4%. However, in a sign that it does not want to let its guard down, it has also opted to soak up some of the excess liquidity with a temporary CRR hike on incremental deposits. This would help mop up about Rs 1 trillion from the system and is aimed at absorbing the excess liquidity created by the return of Rs 2,000 notes. The rule will be relaxed by early September ahead of the advance tax outflow and the festive season so that there is no liquidity shortage at the time. As a measure, it is more appropriate than a CRR hike, which can be perceived as too hawkish.

Indeed, the RBI is anxious about the many imponderables—a shortfall in the kharif output on top of elevated prices of cereals, the impact of El Nino, and the climbing prices of crude oil which are nudging \$88 per barrel. It has also pointed out that if higher food prices sustain, they pose the risk of inflation expectations becoming entrenched. But rather than alarm the markets, the RBI has opted to alert them. That is probably why there was scarcely any movement in benchmark yields. What one takes away from all this is that rates are going to stay higher for longer, especially since inflation at the start of FY25 is now estimated to be above 5% levels. As such, a cut in policy rates is now highly unlikely even in early 2024 because the RBI believes the economy is growing well and that there is an incipient recovery in rural India.

Financial Express

Beyond the Brochure: The Truth Behind Education Consultants



Peer Mohammad Amir Qureshi

An ominous shift has taken place, with an insidious cabal of fraudulent advisors exploiting the unwavering trust of impressionable students, weaving tantalizing narratives of overseas or inter-state educational pursuits. Their audacious demands for exorbitant fees, coupled with the peddling of spurious degrees, are indicative of a burgeoning crisis

Under the searing sun, I found myself outside the Dean's office alongside my companion, racing against the clock to tick off exam requirements just days away. Amid this arduous endeavor, a Kashmiri couple arrived on campus, the sun's radiance reflecting off their visages. The woman's mission: snag an admit card from the Dean. But guess what? It's not as simple as it sounds. Her admission hangs in limbo, to her profound disappointment, what awaited her was nothing short of a staggering revelation—her admission remained unverified. The origins of this predicament stemmed from the fact that her admission had been orchestrated by a duplicitous consultant, one who habitually ensnares unsuspecting students, capitalizing on their vulnerabilities and offering a comprehensive array of deceptive services. Aided by the innate innocence of students, these cunning operators exploit their aspirations.

The Kashmiri couple was aghast, stunned by this unfortunate turn of events. Frantic calls to the consultant went unanswered, leaving them in disarray. Fortuitously, the woman's impending exams were deferred, and the aid of a consultant named Zakir sir (Zakir Kashmiri) ultimately secured her rightful admission. Cautionary voices in the academic realm advocate for a prudent reduction in reliance on consultants, emphasizing the need for aspirants to undertake their procedural responsibilities autonomously. Education consultants, those folks hired by colleges or Universities to handle registrations, can be a lifeline. But here's the twist—some are like wolves in sheep's clothing, an ominous shift has taken place, with an insidious cabal of

fraudulent advisors exploiting the unwavering trust of impressionable students, weaving tantalizing narratives of overseas or inter-state educational pursuits. Their audacious demands for exorbitant fees, coupled with the peddling of spurious degrees, are indicative of a burgeoning crisis.

In the city of Hyderabad, India, a syndicate of malefactors was apprehended, their malevolent activities centering around the fabrication of counterfeit educational credentials, ostensibly to satiate the stringent visa requirements for overseas education and employment. The intricate web of this operation encompassed an educational consultancy, a software engineer, and their intermediary associates. It becomes evident, however, that the culpability isn't solely borne by consultants; students themselves sometimes fall prey to their own misguided choices.

To navigate this labyrinthine landscape, experts underscore the imperative of minimizing dependence on consultants. Aspiring scholars should proactively gather exhaustive information before committing to any institution. The digital age's global village enables Kashmiris worldwide to harness the power of the internet and social media, extracting invaluable insights and reviews from their digital cohorts. Prior to making any commitments, diligent perusal of online resources, coupled with consultation of university-issued lists and alumni endorsements, is judicious. The wisdom of connecting with former attendees of a prospective institution cannot be overstated. Equally, the allure of postgraduate studies should be tempered with the pursuit of esteemed universities over mere colleges, as the former is likelier to host accomplished faculty with

exceptional pedagogical acumen. The allure of consultants must be resisted—a clandestine network of brokers, akin to a secretive cabal, is ceaselessly scheming to ensnare unwitting candidates. This shadowy realm extends to the production of counterfeit degrees, allegedly attributed to a plethora of universities across states. The Students Association of Jammu and Kashmir, as stakeholders, are well-positioned to ameliorate this conundrum. Initiatives to catalog unscrupulous entities through blacklisting and disseminating advisories on social media can be a potent tool to counter this consultancy menace. The psychological toll on vulnerable students ensnared by the consultancy mafia underscores the necessity of mental health support. During undergraduate studies, counseling sessions facilitated by seasoned professors should guide students contemplating further education. Government intervention in the form of a dedicated committee or council is pivotal to oversee consultancy operations, imposing penalties on deceptive agencies and compensating victims of their machinations. The current climate mandates astute vigilance—remain alert and prudent. Allow neither gullibility nor naiveté to undermine your journey. Utilize smartphones judiciously, lest they become instruments of your undoing. May divine providence guide us steadfastly along the righteous path.

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 Ganderbal based columnist and is pursuing an MSc in zoology. He can be reached at ehsaanamy133@gmail.com



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To BRICS or not to BRICS?

With the BRICS summit approaching, scheduled for August 22-24, many political forces both outside and inside the member countries are trying to sow discord or, at least, create the appearance of strained relations between the members of the club. It is no coincidence that every day there is more and more news about the alleged rivalry between India and China or about Delhi's opposition to the idea of expanding the

BRICS. Despite the fact that governments of states conduct an honest dialogue with their citizens and quickly refute all such attacks, it should be understood that in the coming weeks there will be much more informational stuffing, since their main goal is to complicate the upcoming summit.

Attempts to quarrel with the members of the association are explained by the fact that not all players on the world stage like the neighborhood with the BRICS. In

addition to the fact that the club has a huge economic and political potential, and recently it has also become the main symbol of the global de-dollarization movement, which can lead to a revision of the whole old financial system.

However, despite all the attempts of interested parties to put a spoke in the wheels of the club and discredit its members, participation in the BRICS outweighs any accusations and brings tangible benefits to India. In par-

ticular, our government recently announced that more than 20 countries have already opened special bank accounts for trade with India in rupees. There is no doubt that the number of countries ready to leave the dollar in mutual settlements will continue to grow, which will provide the rupee with the opportunity to become a new international currency and further strengthen the position of our country in the international arena.

Surendra Panagariya

AKHAURA-AGARTALA RAILWAY

A Milestone Of India-Bangladesh Railway Connectivity

Samara Ashrat

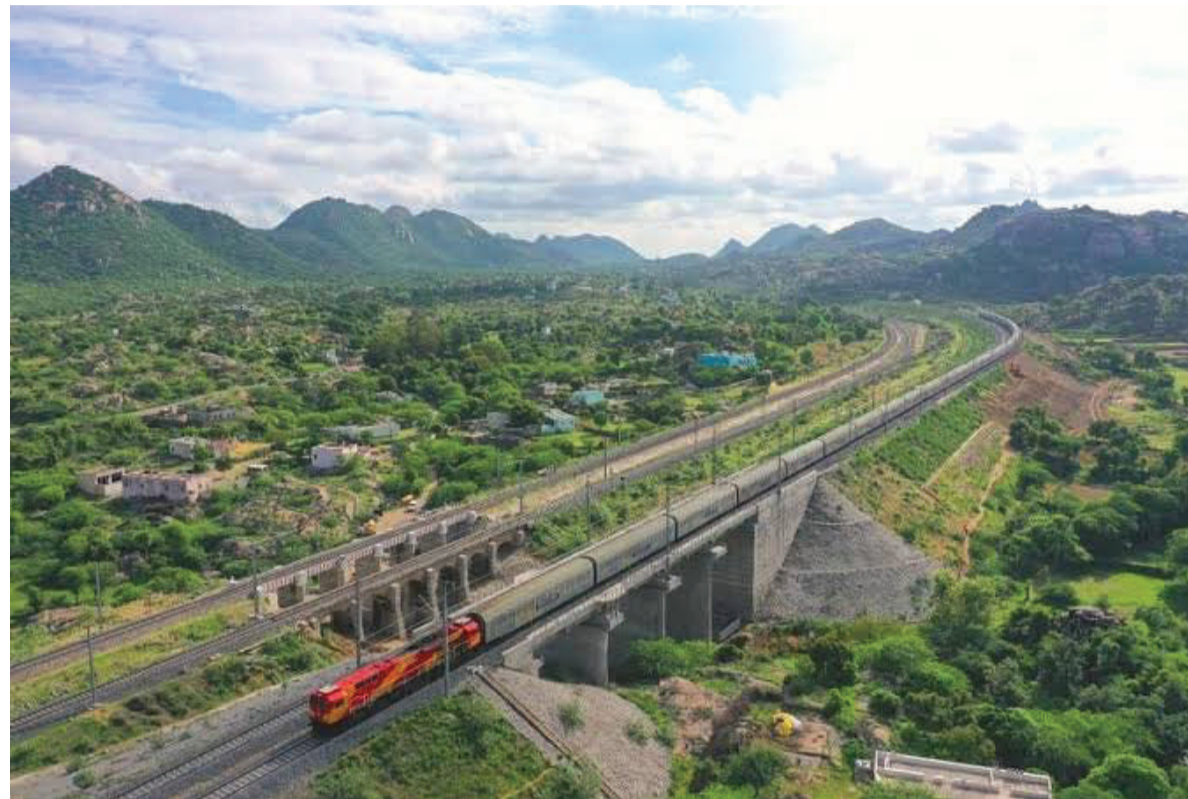
The Akhaura-Agartala rail line will be inaugurated soon. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is expected to inaugurate this rail line along with India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi in September. This project is creating considerable excitement among the people of both of the countries. This connectivity initiative is expected to be a game changer for both India and Bangladesh.

Goods can be transported from other sea ports of India to other states of the North-Eastern region via Agartala from Chittagong and Mongla ports of Bangladesh. As a result, trade in these states will increase as well as it will be possible to transport goods quickly and easily along with reducing the cost of goods transportation.

The Project

The Agartala-Akhaura international railway connectivity project is one of India and Bangladesh's most prominent connectivity projects. Akhaura used to be the railway link for Agartala before Independence. Akhaura-Agartala railway line is finally seeing the light. The project is being implemented with an Indian loan. The project officials said that the work of Akhaura-Agartala project has been completed more than 90 percent. The work of laying the railway line is complete.

The railway line, which is 15.064 km long — 5.05 km in India and 10.014 km in Bangladesh — will link Bangladesh's Akhaura, through an international immigration station at Nischintapur, to the outskirts of Agartala. This station will be a dual gauge station for both pas-



senger and goods interchange between India and Bangladesh. The project also includes one major bridge and three minor bridges.

The MoU was signed during Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's visit to India in January 2010. After that, the project, which started in 2016, is being extended for the fourth time till June 2024. In other words, this project, which has been going on for 13 years, is finally seeing the light of day. The project was

supposed to be over in 2020 but was delayed following land acquisition issues and the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic. The 15-kilometre-long railway line would link Bangladesh's Akhaura through an international immigration station at Nischintapur along the India-Bangladesh border. Once operational, the railway will reduce travel time between Agartala and Kolkata from 31 hours to 10 hours, creating a plethora of opportunities for trade, tourism, and

cultural exchange.

The Railway Ministry of India allocated Rs 153.84 crore for this project. The Ministry of DONER (Development of North Eastern Region) is funding the project and that Rs 708.74 crore of the estimated cost has already been provided and utilised. This railway link is part of the 16 transit routes that have been declared allowing cargo transportation from Chattogram or Mongla port to Indian states.

Small but effective

Upon completion of this railway link, two Indian states, including Tripura and West Bengal, will easily be connected with Bangladesh. This new railway link will reduce travel time between the two Indian cities of Kolkata and Agartala. The train from Agartala to Kolkata will cover a distance of 500 kilometres via Dhaka in around 16 hours. Upon completion of the project, the travel time between Agartala and Kolkata via Dhaka, which currently takes about 31 hours, will be reduced to 10 hours. The 15-km long railway link connecting Agartala with Gangasagar will play a crucial role in the overall development of the North Eastern region. Those from Mizoram, which is 150 kilometres away, and those from Agartala will benefit from the current line.

Not only that, India and Bangladesh have signed an agreement, allowing Indian traders to use Chattogram and Mongla ports in Bangladesh for transportation of goods. This railway will not only increase the movement of the people of two countries but will also play an important role in the import and export of goods from Chittagong port, resulting in a boost in trade and adding value to the economic development of both nations as well as states. Not only that, this rail line would boost the tourism sector of both of the countries. The new rail project will enhance relations between India and Bangladesh and aid in the growth of small-scale industries in the border area and boost tourism in the northeastern region. Facilitating faster export and import of commodities would benefit local producers in exporting their products outside the country.

Views expressed are author's own

An Expanded BRICS Can Push For A New Economic Order

Osama Al Sharif

Regional and global realignments have been picking up pace for years, but the Covid-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine have accelerated that trend. Global challenges are becoming more acute and urgent; from global warming and climate change to food shortages, illegal migration and disruptions in energy supplies.

This is why it will be interesting to follow the proceedings and outcome of one of the most important meetings to take place this year, the BRICS summit, between 22 and 24 August, in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Foundations of a new economic order

Last June at the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum (SPIEF), Russia's Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov announced that the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and Algeria are candidates for BRICS membership. Other potential candidates include Mexico, Argentina, and Indonesia. Twenty three countries have formally applied to become new BRICS members.

Some would argue that smaller groups work better, the G-7 is an example, but others see a larger club of like-minded nations working together is in a better position to set the foundations of a new economic order.

The BRICS economies have been rapidly growing and gaining prominence, with China and India emerging as major global economic players. BRICS is projected to account for 45 per cent of global GDP in purchasing power parity (PPP) terms by 2030. The group already accounts for about 31.7 per cent of the world's GDP as of 2022, compared to the G-7's 30 per cent share of the world's GDP as of 2022.

Equitable international order

Additional members will only strengthen the group's global economic presence — especially if the UAE and Saudi Arabia end up joining. But apart from the economic aspect, BRICS+ will prove to be a potent political powerhouse as well.



At a time when there is so much criticism about how western countries have failed to create a more equitable economic order in a world plagued by poverty, over exploitation of the planet's resources, pollution, famine and disease, BRICS+ could go a long way in addressing some of these challenges.

BRICS countries have advocated for a more democratic, representative, and equitable international order that respects the diversity and sovereignty of all nations. In addition they called for strengthening their voice and influence in global governance

and multilateral institutions, such as the United Nations, the G20, the World Trade Organisation, and the International Monetary Fund.

These countries can create genuine pressure to bring rival groups, namely the G-7, which is seen as a Western-centric club, representing primarily North America and Europe, to the negotiation table in order to begin reforming the current global economic and political orders.

Since its founding, BRICS has achieved some notable successes, such as establishing the New Development Bank (NDB) in

2014, which provides financing for infrastructure and sustainable development projects in BRICS and other developing countries.

It also launched the Partnership for New Industrial Revolution (PartNIR) in 2018, which aims to foster cooperation on innovation, digital economy, industrialisation, and skills development among BRICS countries. The group has also set up the Contingent Reserve Arrangement, which is a framework for the provision of support through liquidity and precautionary instruments in response to actual or potential

short-term balance of payments pressures.

Integration with the global economy

The rising appeal for BRICS, by countries in the southern hemisphere, can be appreciated for several reasons. Collectively, BRICS nations represent a significant portion of the world's population, more than 40 per cent, and their economies have experienced rapid growth over the years. Their increasing integration with the global economy has attracted attention, as they offer opportunities for trade, investment, and business collaborations.

Their growing middle class, urbanisation, and expanding consumer markets make them attractive destinations for businesses looking to tap into new consumer bases and diversify their operations. In addition, BRICS nations possess abundant natural resources, ranging from oil and gas reserves to minerals and agricultural land.

In the long run, the BRICS countries, being from the Global South, promote South-South cooperation, sharing knowledge, expertise, and resources among themselves and other developing nations. This approach resonates with countries that seek alternatives to traditional Western-dominated models of development.

For example, one can only see how the UAE's contribution to BRICS+ can be made particularly in the tech sector, including areas like artificial intelligence, renewable energy, internet services and space exploration.

The rising interest in BRICS can also be attributed to the polarising nature of the war in Ukraine and its deep effects on geopolitical balances, global trade and energy supplies as well as global food security.

Hopefully lessons will be learnt from past experiences and the leadership will chart a path that will deliver on most of BRICS goals and objectives at a time when the planet faces unprecedented global challenges.

The article was originally published by Gulf News. Views expressed are author's own

Common Cold Virus Associated With Potentially Fatal Blood Clotting Disorder: Study

ANI

Platelets, also known as thrombocytes, are specialised cellular fragments that produce blood clots in the event of a scrape or traumatic injury. Platelet levels may decrease throughout the body as a result of viral infections, autoimmune disease, and other disorders, a condition known as thrombocytopenia. After a robust clinical and research collaboration, Stephan Moll, MD, and Jacquelyn Baskin-Miller, MD, both in the UNC School of Medicine, have linked adenovirus infection with a rare blood clotting disorder. This is the first time that the common respiratory virus, which causes mild cold-and flu-like symptoms, has been reported to be associated with blood clots and severe thrombocytopenia.

"This adenovirus-associated disorder is now one of four recognized anti-PF4 disorders," said Moll, professor of medicine in the Department of Medicine's Division of Hematology. "We hope that our findings will lead to earlier diagnosis, appropriate and optimized treatment, and better outcomes in patients who develop this life-threatening disorder." Their new observation, which was published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, sheds new light on the virus and its role in causing an anti-platelet factor 4 disorder. Additionally, the discovery opens a whole new door for research, as many questions remain as to how and why this condition occurs – and who is most likely to develop the disorder.

HIT, VITT, and "Spontaneous HIT"

Antibodies are large Y-shaped proteins that can stick to the surface of bacteria and other "foreign" substances, flagging them for destruction by the immune system or neutralizing the threat directly.

In anti-PF4 disorders, the person's immune system makes antibodies against platelet factor-4 (PF4), a protein that is released by platelets. When an antibody forms against PF4 and binds to it, this can trigger the activation and rapid removal of platelets in the bloodstream, leading to blood clotting and low platelets, respectively.



Sometimes, the formation of anti-PF4 antibodies is triggered by a patient's exposure to heparin, called heparin-induced thrombocytopenia (HIT), and sometimes it occurs as an autoimmune condition without heparin exposure, which is referred to as "spontaneous HIT."

In the last three years, thrombocytopenia has been shown to rarely occur after injection with COVID-19 vaccines that are made with inactivated pieces of an adenoviral vector. These vaccines are different than the ones made in the United States, such as those by Moderna and Pfizer. The condition is referred to as vaccine-induced immune thrombotic thrombocytopenia (VITT).

The Road to Discovery
The road to the discovery started when a

5-year-old boy who had been diagnosed as an outpatient with adeno virus infection had to be admitted to the hospital with an aggressive blood clot forming in his brain (called cerebral sinus vein thrombosis) and severe thrombocytopenia. Doctors determined that he hadn't been exposed to heparin or the adeno-vector COVID-19 vaccination, the classical triggers for HIT and VITT.

"The intensive care unit physicians, the neuro-intensivist, and hematology group were working around the clock to determine next steps in the care for this young boy," said Baskin-Miller. "He wasn't responding to therapy and was progressing quickly. We had questioned whether it could have been linked to his adenovirus considering the vaccine data, but there was nothing in the literature at that time to suggest it."

The collaborative clinical effort to help the patient expanded: Baskin-Miller reached out to Moll, who is an expert in thrombosis and has various connections throughout the field. To Moll, it looked like the pediatric patient could have "spontaneous HIT". They then tested for the HIT platelet activating antibody, which came back positive.

Collaboration is Key

Moll reached out to, Theodore E. Warkentin, MD, a professor of pathology and molecular medicine at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario, who has been researching anti-PF4 disorders for three decades, to hear if he was aware of an association between adenoviral infection and spon-

aneous HIT. Warkentin, who is one of the premier international anti-PF4 disorders researcher, wasn't aware of the condition.

Around the same time, Moll received a phone call from Alison L. Raybould, MD, a hematologist-oncologist in Richmond, Virginia, a previous trainee from UNC. She was seeing a patient who had multiple blood clots, a stroke and heart attack, arm and leg deep-vein thromboses (DVT), and severe thrombocytopenia.

The patient had not been exposed to heparin or vaccines. However, this patient's severe illness had also started with viral symptoms of cough and fever, and she had tested positive for adenoviral infection. Testing for an anti-PF4 antibody also turned out to be positive.

To help clarify the diagnoses of the two patients, Warkentin immediately offered to further test the patients' blood and samples were directly to his laboratory in the Hamilton General Hospital for further study. They confirmed that the antibodies were targeting platelet factor 4, much like the HIT antibodies.

Surprisingly, the antibody resembled that of the VITT and bound to PF4 in the same region as VITT antibodies do. They concluded that both the patients had "spontaneous HIT" or a VITT-like disorder, associated with an adenovirus infection.

More Questions

Following such a groundbreaking conclusion, Moll and colleagues are now left with many questions about the prevalence of the new anti-PF4 disorder, whether the condition can be caused by other viruses, and why this condition doesn't occur with every infection with adenovirus.

They also wonder what preventative or treatment measures can be made to help patients who develop the new, potentially deadly anti-PF4 disorder.

"How common is the disorder?" asked Moll. "What degree of thrombocytopenia raises the threshold to test for anti-PF4 antibodies? And then finally, how do we best treat these patients to optimize the chance that they will survive such a potentially deadly disease?"

Brain Activity Of Listeners Used To Recreate Classic Pink Floyd Number

Press Trust Of India

Brain activity of people listening to Pink Floyd's "Another Brick in the Wall" was used to reconstruct the classic rock number, scientists report in a new study.

The reconstruction reveals that brain waves can be recorded and processed to bring out musical elements of the speech heard, such as rhythm, stress, accent and intonation, along with the syllables, the study from the University of California (UC), Berkeley, US, said.

These musical elements are known to convey meaning in ways that spoken words alone do not.

The phrase "All in all it was just a brick in the wall" could be recognised in the reproduced song, with its rhythms intact and the words muddy yet decipherable, the researchers report in the study published in the journal *PLoS Biology*.

The listeners were 29 patients undergoing epilepsy surgery at Albany Medical Center, New York, US, over a decade ago.

Neuroscientists at the centre recorded electrical activity through electrodes placed on the patients' brains as they heard an approximately 3-minute segment of the classic Pink Floyd song from the 1979 album *The Wall*.

"As this whole field of brain machine interfaces progresses, this gives you a way to add musicality to future brain implants for people who need it, someone who's got some disabling neurological or developmental disorder compromising speech output.

"It gives you an ability to decode not only the linguistic content, but some of the prosodic content of speech, some of the (emotional) affect," said Robert Knight, a neurologist and UC Berkeley professor of psychology who conducted the study with postdoctoral fellow Ludovic Bellier.

The brain machine interfaces used today to help people communicate have a robotic quality similar to how the late Stephen Hawking sounded when he used a speech-generating device, the researchers said.

Previous studies have used brain activity to reconstruct the words a person was hearing. They have also recorded signals from the brain's motor area linked to jaw, lip and tongue movements to produce the speech intended by a paralysed patient. The words would display on a computer screen.

This study suggested that recording from the brain's auditory regions, where all aspects of sound are processed, can capture other aspects of speech important in human communication.

"Decoding from the auditory cortices, which are closer to the acoustics of the sounds, as opposed to the motor cortex, which is closer to the movements that are



done to generate the acoustics of speech, is super promising," said Bellier. "It will give a little color to what's decoded." For the study, Bellier reanalysed brain recordings obtained in 2012 and 2013 and used artificial intelligence (specifically, nonlinear regression models) to decode brain activity and then encode a reproduction.

He and his team also pinpointed new brain regions involved in detecting rhythm, such as a thumping guitar, and discovered that some portions (superior temporal gyrus) of the auditory cortex responded to the onset of a voice or a synthesizer, while others responded to sustained vocals.

The researchers also confirmed that the right side of the brain is more attuned to music than the left side. "Language is more left brain. Music is more distributed, with a bias toward right," Knight said.



WHY TO USE CRITICAL CARE AMBULANCE

Early Intervention

- Critical care ambulances are equipped with advanced medical equipment and trained medical professionals who can provide early intervention to patients during transit. This early intervention can help to stabilize patients and prevent their condition from deteriorating, thereby reducing the risk of mortality and morbidity.

Timely Transportation

- Critical care ambulances can transport patients to hospitals more quickly and safely than private transport, reducing the time between the onset of the medical emergency and the start of treatment. This can be critical in cases of heart attacks, strokes, or traumatic injuries, where every minute counts.

Reduced Complications

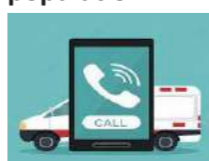
- Patients who receive critical care ambulance services are less likely to experience complications during transit or upon arrival at the hospital. This can result in shorter hospital stays, reduced healthcare costs, and improved patient outcomes.

Better Coordination

- Critical care ambulance services often work closely with local hospitals and emergency medical services (EMS) to ensure that patients receive the appropriate care and treatment. This coordination can help to reduce the risk of medical errors and ensure that patients receive the best possible care.

Improved Accessibility:

Critical care ambulance services can help to improve the accessibility of healthcare services in remote or underserved areas. This can help to reduce health disparities and improve the overall health of the population.



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Chandrayaan-3 Spacecraft Successfully Undergoes Final Lunar Orbit Manoeuvre



Agenceis

Bengaluru: India's ambitious third Moon mission's spacecraft Chandrayaan-3 on Wednesday successfully underwent a fifth and final Moon-bound orbit manoeuvre, bringing it even closer to the lunar surface. With this, the spacecraft has completed its lunar-bound manoeuvres and it will now prepare for the propulsion module and the lander module separation, ISRO said.

"Today's successful firing, needed for a short duration, has put Chandrayaan-3 into an orbit of 153 km x 163 km, as intended. With this, the lunar bound manoeuvres are completed. It's time for preparations as

the Propulsion Module and the Lander Module gear up for their separate journeys," the national space agency tweeted.

Separation of the lander module from the propulsion module of the spacecraft is planned for August 17, it said.

Post its launch on July 14, Chandrayaan-3 entered into the lunar orbit on August 5, following which three successive orbit reduction manoeuvres were carried out on August 6, 9 and 14 to move closer to the Moon.

As the mission progresses, a series of manoeuvres is being conducted by ISRO to gradually reduce Chandrayaan-3's orbit and position it over the lunar poles.

The spacecraft is scheduled to make a soft landing on the south

Want to Perform Umrah This Year? Check This First

Agenceis

Srinagar: Saudi Arabia has advised overseas Muslims, planning to perform Umrah or lesser pilgrimage, to verify the credentials of agents first.

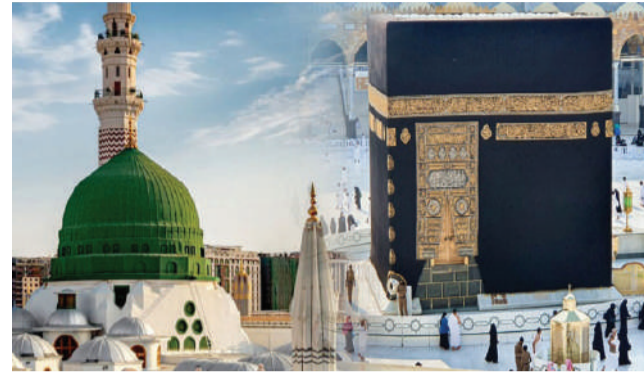
"Dealing with licensed companies guarantee your rights," the Saudi Ministry of Hajj and Umrah said, addressing would-be pilgrims.

The ministry advised them to log onto its website and check a list of licensed agents in their home countries via the link <https://eservices.haj.gov.sa>.

Saudi Arabia expects around 10 million Muslims from the world over to perform Umrah this season.

The season commenced weeks ago, with the beginning of Muharram-ul-Haram, the first Islamic Hijri year and after the end of annual Hajj pilgrimage. Record 1.8 million Muslims performed Hajj this year and the number was highest after pandemic-related restrictions were lifted.

Muslims, who cannot physically or financially afford Hajj, go to Saudi Arabia to undertake Umrah at the Grand Mosque, Is-



lam's holiest site in Makkah.

Muslims holding different types of entry visas such as the personal, visit and tourist visas are allowed to undertake Umrah and visit Masjid al Nabawi, the resting place of Prophet Mohammed (PBUH) located in Medina after booking an e-appointment.

Saudi authorities have extended the Umrah visa from 30 days to 90 and allow holders to enter the kingdom via all land, air and sea routes and leave likewise.

The kingdom has also said that expatriates residing in the Gulf Cooperation Council countries are eligible to apply for a

tourist visa, regardless of their profession, and be able to perform Umrah.

Sources told Kashmir Observer that Saudi citizens can now invite their Muslim friends abroad to the Kingdom to perform Umrah on "personal visit visa."

Personal visas, which can be obtained online, can either be single entry or multiple entry, they said.

Aside from performing Umrah rituals at the Grand Mosque in Makkah and visiting the Prophet's Mosque in Medina, visitors can also make trips to various tourism destinations in the Kingdom.

Tomatoes On "Vacation" As India Battles Food Inflation: Burger King

Agenceis

New Delhi/Chennai: Burger King has scrapped tomatoes from its wraps and burgers in many Indian outlets after prices more than quadrupled, the latest symptom of surging food inflation that is hitting consumers hard across world's most populous nation.

"Even tomatoes need a vacation ... we are unable to add tomatoes to our food," read notices pasted at two Burger King India outlets. The chain has cited quality issues in explaining the shortfall.

The burger chain, one of India's biggest with nearly 400 outlets, joins many McDonald's and Subway stores that have removed tomatoes from menus as India's food inflation this week hit its highest since January 2020.

The U.S. sandwich chain even cancelled the free cheese slices it offered for years.

Rival Domino's, meanwhile, has tried bringing down prices to appeal to struggling consumers with a \$0.60 pizza - its cheapest in the world.

The tomato supply crisis has coincided with a surge in prices by as much as 450% to record highs as monsoon rains disrupted crop and supply chains - although they have since eased.

"Why are there no tomatoes in my burgers?" reads a question on the support page of Burger

King India's web site. The answer states its Indian franchisee follows "very high standards of quality" and tomatoes will be back soon.

"We request your patience and understanding," it says.

Restaurant Brands Asia, which operates Burger King in India, did not respond to requests for comment.

The pain is spreading with July retail inflation data released this week showing prices of vegetables rose 37% over a year. The cost of staples from onions and peas to garlic and ginger have all risen.

"If the prices remain high, then eventually restaurants will have to take price increases," said Amnish Aggarwal, head of research at India's Prabhudas Lilladher. "There is no other alternative."

As well as placing pressure on the margins of foreign chains operating in India's nearly \$5 billion market for fast-food restaurants, the price shocks pose a challenge for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government ahead of a national election next year.

To manage the supply crisis, India has started tomato imports from Nepal, and has organised vans to distribute the staple at cheaper rates across the nation, with social media posts showing huge queues.

Quick eats for busy people

Bun Maska Chai

Chicken Crispy Burger