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Amit Shah Reviews J&K Security Preparations Of G20 Meeting In Srinagar

NEW DELHI, APR 13: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday reviewed the functioning of the security grid and all security-related aspects in Jammu and Kashmir and conveyed the Narendra Modi government's unflinching resolve to the policy of zero tolerance against terrorism.

Shah also reviewed the preparations for a G20 meeting to be held in Srinagar next month and directed all relevant agencies to work in coordination for successful conduct of the event.

At the security review meeting, attended by National Security Adviser Ajit Doval, Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha among others, Shah took stock of the functioning of the security grid and various aspects related to security, an official statement said.



The home minister reiterated the Modi government's unflinching resolve to the

policy of zero tolerance against terrorism. Turn.....Amit Shah Reviews.....Pg 02

Weather likely to remain dry with rise in day temperature

■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, APR 13: Weather is likely to remain dry and day temperature may see a rise in Jammu and Kashmir till April 15, officials said.

Meteorological department forecast mainly clear to partly cloudy sky and day temperature may see a significant rise till April 15 and thereafter see a fall by 2-4 degree Celsius.

It said the weather will remain generally cloudy with intermittent light rain, thunderstorm or Lightning with occasionally moderate intensity rains for short periods at scattered to fairly widespread places of Kashmir Division and few places

of Jammu Division from April 16-17. The weather will generally remain cloudy with intermittent Light to moderate rain (light snow over higher reaches), thunderstorm with Lightning at widespread places of Kashmir Division and few places of Jammu Division during April 18 and 19, while generally cloudy with intermittent Light rain,

Turn.....Weather likely.....Pg 02

Centre Explores Option Of Tunnel For Connectivity Between Uri Poonch

Between 1947, these areas were connected through Haji Pir pass

■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, APR 13: The Government of India is exploring the option of constructing a tunnel across Pir Panchal region for connectivity between strategically important areas of Uri and Poonch.

The Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has set the ball rolling for preparation of a detailed project report for a 5.5 kilometer long tunnel across Pir Panchal region.

Before 1947, there was direct connectivity between Uri and Poonch through Haji Pir Pass. The Haji Pir pass now falls on the other side of the Line of Control. The pass was captured by Indian forces during the 1965 War but Pakistan regained its possession as a result of the Tashkent agreement, under which forces of both the countries retreated to their earlier positions.

To begin with, the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways through has now invited a proposal from technical consultants for carrying out detailed project report, pre -construction activities and supervision for construction of highway tunnel of 5.5 kilometer length(tentative)including approaches across Pir Panjal range between Km 75.00 and Km 80.50 on Poonch-Uri Road.

"The consultant should have expertise in carrying out similar kind of job, in similar Turn.....Centre Explores.....Pg 02

NEWS BRIEF

Drone From Pakistan Brought Down Near LoC In Rajouri, **Searches Underway**

■ MS Nazki

JAMMU, APR 13: A drone from Pakistan was brought down by security forces as it crossed the Line of Control (LoC) in Rajouri district, and a massive search operation has been launched in the area, officials said Turn.....Drone From Pakistan.....Pg 02

Water shortage sparks protest in **Srinagar uptown**

■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, APR 13: The residents of Sheikh Dawood (SD) Colony here in the Batamaloo area of Srinagar city Thursday staged a protest against the PHE Department for failing to ensure a regular supply of potable water to Turn.....**Water shortage.....**Pg 02

Fahad Shah's PSA petition pronounced, details yet to emerge

■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, APR 13: Jammu Kashmir High Court pronounced the Public Safety Act petition related to Kashmirbased Journalist Fahad Shah today.

Fahad Shah is currently lodged in Kot Bhalwal Jail Jammu. He was arrested by Pulwama police in February last year, for social media posts
Turn.....Fahad Shah's.....Pg 02

Babademb Lane In Shambles, Locals Seek Attention Of SMC

■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, APR 13: The dilapidated condition of a by-lane along Babdemb road in Srinagar is giving a tough time to the inhabitants.

"The lane near Marriage Hall is dotted with potholes, filled with mud which speaks volumes about the tall claims of the government of improving Turn.....Babademb Lane.....Pg 02

Commissioning of new ILS CAT II by mid-July: **Dir Airport**

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, APR 13: Following the



completion of the Instrument Landing System (ILS) and its calibration, Srinagar airport authorities are expecting the commissioning of the new ILS CAT II by mid-July this year.

Director Srinagar International Airport Kuldeep Singh Rishi told the news agency–Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that the installation process of ILS Cat II has
Turn.....Commissioning of new.....Pg 02

Economic crisis triggers anti-Pak protests in PoK

<u>Vishal Bharti</u>

JAMMU, APR 13: Amidst the economic crisis in Pakistan, several protests were triggered across the Line of Control in parts of Pakistan-occupied-Kashmir (PoK), with the people holding their leaders responsible, and demanding they be given the death penalty for the current situation in the country.

The residents of PoK in a series of videos (accessed by UNI through credible sources) were seen shouting slogans, complaining against the Pakistan government for the all-time high food prices which have overburdened the poor, even as the creamy class enjoyed all the luxuries for free.

There is no employment, good education, proper health care, and infrastructural development, and the government is torturing the needy population, alleged the protestors.

Around 1 lakh tourists visit Pahalgam in last three months

Tourism flow increases with each passing day: Official



HT News Network

lakh tourists visited Pahalgam in the first three months of the Turn.....Around 1 lakh.....Pg 02 SRINAGAR, APR 13: Around one

J&K Govt. rolls out homework schedule for students as per school bag policy 2020

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, APR 13: Jammu and Kashmir government on Thursday rolled out "Homework Schedule" for students according to which there shall be no homework for student's up to second standard.

Directorate of School Education Kashmir (DSEK) issued 'Homework Schedule' as per New Bag Policy-2020, to minimize the load as per the School Bag Policy 2020.

It has also mandated a maximum of ten to twelve hours

Turn.....J&K Govt. rolls out.....Pg 02

JPDCL to install over 2.5L smart meters in Jammu City in next 5 months: Official

■ HT News Network

JAMMU, APR 13: The Jammu Power Distribution Corporation Limited (JPDCL) on Thursday said that more than 2.5 lakhs smart meters will be installed in next five months in the Jammu city.

"It is the endeavor of JPDCL to install more than Turn.....JPDCL to install.....Pg 02

Festival of Baisakhi harbinger of peace & prosperity in J&K

■ HT News Network

SRINAGAR, APR 13: All Parties Sikh Coordination Committee (APSCC) on Thursday has expressed hope that the festival of Baisakhi will be a harbinger of peace and prosperity in Jammu and Kashmir.

In a statement, APSCC Chairman Jagmohan Singh Raina while expressing joy and happiness over the festival of Baisakhi, said that such festive occasions provide a chance to the people of different communities to come close to

Turn.....Festival of Baisakhi.....Pg 02

Thousands Of **Devotees Visit Subar Nag** Temple In Bhaderwah To Celebrate Baisakhi

■ HT News Network

BHADERWAH/JAMMU, APR 13: Thousands of devotees converged at the ancient Subar-Nag temple Turn.....Thousands of.....Pg 02

Judges are like architectural designers while deciding a case: Chief Justice

Judicial Academy organizea interactive programme for Civil Judges of Kashmir

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, APR 13: The Jammu and Kashmir Judicial Academy organized a one day interactive programme on "order/judgment writing, Turn.....Judges are like.....Pg 02



HT - NEWS

CONTINUE FROM FRONT PAGE.....

Amit Shah.....

He also reviewed the area domination plan, zero terror policy, law and order situation, matters related to UAPA and other security-related

Shah appreciated the efforts of the Jammu and Kashmir administration and security agencies for significant reduction in cross-border in filtration and improvement in law-and-order situation and stressed on strengthening routine policing.

India on Thursday dismissed Pakistan's objection to the hosting of the G20 meetings in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh and said these conferences are being organised across the country and it is "natural" to hold them in the two union territories too as they are its "integral and inalienable" part.

India is hosting a meeting of the G20 Tourism Working Group in Srinagar in May while a youth engagement group meeting is scheduled to take place in Leh later this month.

On April 6, Jammu and Kashmir Director General of Police Dilbag Singh had said militancy has not ended in Jammu and Kashmir yet, but it is on the wane as the number of ultras has declined to an all-time low.

He said local youths, who were pushed towards militancy, have now returned to the mainstream after leaving that path.

On March 30, a suspected Improvised Explosive Device (IED) blast rocked a border hamlet in Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua district, creating a huge crater in the ground.

There were several targeted killings in Jammu and Kashmir in previous years.

The government had informed Parliament that as many as 118 civilians, including five Kashmiri Pandits and 16 other Hindus and Sikhs, were killed in J-K since the abrogation of Article 370 in 2019 till July 2022.

Those who attended the meeting included Union Home Secretary Ajay Kumar Bhalla, DGP Dilbag Singh and other senior officials sources said. (Agencies)

Weather likely.....

thunderstorm and lightning at few places likely during April 20-21 in Jammu and Kashmir. The weather will be mainly dry with occa-

sional cloudy conditions from April 22 to 26, the MeT office said. It has also advised farmers to spray their

Orchards by April 15.

Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, recorded a low of 7.2 degree Celsius against 7.4 on the previous night and it was 0.4 degree below normal during this period of the

Qazigund, on Srinagar-Jammu national highway had a low of 6.0 degree Celsius against 4.4 degree Celsius on the previous night and it was 0.5 below normal for the gateway town of Kash-

Pahalgam, recorded a low of 3.2 degree Celsius against 2.5 degree Celsius on the previous night and it was 0.4 degree Celsius above normal for the famous tourist resort in south Kashmir district of Anantnag.

Kokernag recorded a low of 9.1 degree Celsius against 7.5 degree Celsius on the previous night and it was 3.0 degree Celsius above normal for the picnic spot.

Gulmarg recorded a low of 4.4 degree Celsius against 3.6 degree Celsius on the previous night. However, it was 2.9 degree Celsius above normal for the world famous ski resort in north Kashmir.

Kupwara settled at 6.2 degree Celsius against 5.8 degree Celsius on the previous night and it was 0.1 degree below normal for the frontier north Kashmir area, the MeT office said.

Centre Explores.....

 $geographical \, location (particularly for \, hill \, road$ projects)," reads documents accessed by news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO).

The ambitious project is part of the Prime Minister's Development Package for Jammu &

In the meeting chaired by the Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister to review the implementation of PMDP on September 22, 2018, it was decided that the project will be undertaken by the Border Roads Organization as it is located on the Line of Control.

In January 2021, UT administration requested Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari to expedite finalization of alignment and preparation of DPR.

The tendering process for alignment finalization and feasibility survey was initiated on April 20,2021. The stretch was notified under Bharatmala Pariyojana on June 25, 2021.

Later, the consultant submitted alignment options for the project.

Commissioning.....

been completed. He said the approach procedure designing process will commence in mid-May and the commissioning of the new ILS CAT II is expected by mid-July.

"The installation of ILS Cat II has already been completed and the calibration of this new system has also been completed on March 30 this year. The ILS approach procedure designing process will commence in mid-May, and the commissioning of new ILS CATII is expected by mid-July," he said.

As per the officials, the upgradation of ILS CAT II will ensure that flight operations are undertaken in low visibility, particularly during foggy weather conditions.

For the past several years, people have been demanding the installation of the latest ILS at the airport, and with the new ILS CAT II in place,

it is believed that with the new functionality, the visibility threshold would increase to 600 meters and help in smooth night landings as well.

The CAT-II or CAT-III facility is a radio navigation system that provides guidance to aircraft to approach a runway at night or in bad weath-

It is pertinent to mention here that a Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism, and Culture in its report had flayed the government for the non-availability of the latest Instrument Landing System (ILS) CAT-II or CAT-III at the Srinagar International Airport.

Economic crisis.....

Shouting anti-Pak Army slogans, "Ye Jo Dahshatgardi Hai, Iske Peeche Wardi Hai," "Ye Jo Gunda Gardi Hai, Iske Peeche Wardi Hai," the protestors were explaining to the locals and raising fingers at the government for inflation terming it a "planned move".

"The rich are black-marketing wheat flour that led to inflation and shortage but as the prices went up, the supply of flour also increased, which made it clear that they have deliberately created this situation," they said.

Warning the rich of the consequences if they keep suffering, the locals threatened the affluent would face a similar situation.

In one of the videos, a PoK resident, can be seen reciting poetry mocking the Pakistani government for inflation and shortage of wheat flour, electricity and water supply.

'There is extreme poverty and the national leadership in Pakistan is not competent enough to handle the situation. Instead, they are looting the country and they should be hanged," he said, blamimg the leadership in the couplets.

Moreover, many people from the Neelam Valley were also complaining of an increase in call rates by the telecom companies but the government is not allowing/permitting new operators in the region due to vested interests.

Besides, locals also are not being engaged in the several ongoing projects in the Neelam Val-

In another video, a JKNSF member was also assaulted and fired upon during the protest march wherein he blamed ISI and allies for the incident. The agitating members appealed to locals to join them in large numbers to march towards Muzaffarabad until their demands were met.

Around 1 lakh.....

ongoing year even as the number of tourists visiting Pahalgam is increasing with each passing day.

As per the figures available with the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), 24,182 tourists visited Pahalgam in the month of January followed by 29,562 in February and 44,187 in the month of March.

Due to the uptick in tourist footfall, tourism players in Pahalgam are feeling jubilant as the number of tourists visiting the tourist destination is witnessing an uptick this season again.

Shopkeepers, pony walas and others said they earn that their livelihood and income is proportional to the rush of visitors and this year footfall is very good.

Zakir Ahmad, a hotelier told KNO that the $season is going \, quite \, well \, this \, time \, and \, the \, hotel \,$ occupancy is increasing with each passing day.

He said that currently the rush of non-local tourists is more, however, after Eid the number

of local tourists will be more. An official of the tourism department told KNO that tourism season is in full bloom in Pahalgam and thousands of tourists are visiting

on a daily basis. He said that with each passing day, the num-

ber of tourists visiting Pahalgam is increasing and it will increase further in coming weeks.

He said that thousands of tourists stay for night at Pahalgam and after Eid the number of local tourists visiting Pahalgam will increase manifold.

J&K Govt. rolls.....

classwork for the secondary and higher secondary students each week.

"Heavy homework is an issue, which makes both students and parents stressed because as a general practice it needs to be completed by night and reported in the school next morning. This practice snatches the play time of the child, parents' quality time with child, activities leading to socialization with the family", reads a circular of DSEK.

This practice mars student's creativity and there remains no space for a teacher to inculcate creativity, critical thinking and other 21" century skills among students as envisaged in NEP-2020, it said.

"Moreover, it is often observed that homework beyond their capacity is being given to students while as Children should be given an opportunity for creative work at home in which they can take interest along with their family members."

The circular further stated that children need to be encouraged to read books beyond curriculum at home, opines that there is a need to discuss some of these books in the school which will improve reading habits of children.

"Book clubs may be opened in the school so that children can get a variety of books free of cost in the school itself. Children need to be engaged with creative activities and critical thinking, group discussions so that they can express themselves without any fear", the circular suggests.

The circular says there will be no homework up to Class-II and a maximum of two hours a week from Classes III-V and for middle schools from Classes VI-VIII, there shall be a maximum of one hour a day that is about five to six hours

For the secondary and higher secondary level there shall be a maximum of two hours a day (about 10 to 12 hours a week).

'Teachers need to work together to plan and rationalise the amount of homework that they assign to students," emphasises the circular.

Remarking that further it has been given to understand that all the concerned teachers of a particular class assign homework without coordinating with each other and thus resulting in heavy burden of homework for a student.

The circular further reads that as such it is impressed upon all the school heads of (both government and private) to ensure that the nomework to students is given as per the School Bag Policy 2020 replicated above and strictly adhere to the said schedule without any deviation, it reads.

JPDCL to....

2.5 lakhs smart meters in the next five months," a senior JPDCL official said.

He added that as an incentive to the Smart Meters area, the JPDCL has completely stopped the scheduled curtailment in the areas where smart meters have been installed, adding, "a total of more than 92,000 smart meters have been installed in various areas of Jammu City."

Notably, under the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme more than eight lakh smart meters and prepaid are proposed to be installed across Jammu region.

"The power supply of all the consumers under domestic, commercial and industrial category who have not paid any instalment of electricity bill continuously for three months shall be disconnected automatically with the smart meters," he added.

He said that the JPDCL is overburdened with huge arrears on account of domestic electricity dues, however under the Amnesty Scheme, more than 80 Crores have been collected and more than 50,000 consumers have already taken benefit of the scheme and all defaulting consumers have been requested to avail the amnesty scheme immediately.

Judges are.....

application of the law, sharing best practices and finding solutions to practical problems faced by them in justice delivery" for Civil Judges (Junior Division) of Kashmir Province.

The programme that was in augurated by ChiefJustice, High Court of J&K and Ladakh and Patronn-Chief, J&K Judicial Academy, Justice N Kotiswar Singh, aims to provide a platform for Civil Judges to exchange ideas and share experiences as well as learn techniques from the experts in the

Yash Paul Bourney, Registrar Vigilance, High Court of J&K and Ladakh, MK Sharma, Director, J&K Judicial Academy and Jatinder Singh Jamwal, Special Judge, Anti-Corruption (CBI Cases), Srinagar were the resource persons for the

Delivering the inaugural address, Chief Justice stated that it is the primary duty of a Judge to write judgement understandable by a litigant and not for the higher courts. All focus must be on the litigant who has come for justice, he said adding that judgement should be clear, lucid and with good reasoning. He said application of mind is important to make any decision because we are dealing with human sufferings. For a good judgement the facts of the case should be properly marshalled and the law should be applied with clear reasons for accepting or rejecting any claim of the litigant, he asserted.

Chief Justice emphasised that the judges are like architectural designers while deciding a case. Though in the criminal cases, charge-sheet is the basis for decision but the facts of the case must be taken care of while deciding the case, he added.

Justice Sindhu Sharma, Chairperson, J&K Judicial Academy, in her special address, while quoting a Greek Philosopher said that the qualities of a judge are to hear courteously, to answer wisely, to consider soberly and to decide impartially. She emphasised that while deciding a case and writing a judgment a judge must consider the arguments and claims put forth by the parties. Further quoting Justice H.K. Sema, former judge of Supreme Court of India, she said that Judgement is best when given with reasons. While quoting Justice R.C. Lahoti, former Chief Justice of India, she said that while writing a judgement don't go into the verbosity of the

She also deliberated that a litigant must understand that why a case is in his favour or against, that should come out from the judgement. The basic factors that should be considered, is to maintain integrity while passing a decision and it should not be influenced by any other matter even our own prejudices and biases. We have to consider the facts while writing a judgement that it should be based on the provision of law, the aspect on which we are doing and how we

are going to write the judgement. Justice Javed Iqbal Wani, Member, J&K Judicial Academy, in his special address, citing the case of Barender Kumar Gosh said that the trial Judge quoted from the sonnet 'On His Blindness' of a famous English poet John Milton i.e., "They also serve who only stand and wait" while turning the plea of innocence of Barender Kumar Gosh in a robbery and murder case quoting that even if you were guard at the door still you were guilty of the crime for taking no action.

Justice Wani, citing another recent judgement

of the Supreme Court of India, said while quoting Justice Roslyn Atkinson, former judge of the Supreme Court of Queensland, who had said that there are purposes for any judgement that is written, i.e., to spell out judges own thoughts; to explain your decision to the parties; to communicate the reasons for the decision to the public and to provide reasons for an appeal to consider. Every judgement has to have various basic elements such as statement of material(relevant) facts, legal issues or questions, deliberation to reach at decision and the ratio or conclusive decision, he added.

Director, J&K Judicial Academy, M.K. Sharma, in his welcome address, underscored the importance of organising this program. He said that writing judgments and orders is virtually an art and often varies from judge to judge as no form or format has been provided in law as to how judgments and orders should be written by the judges.

The day long interactive programme was divided into two technical sessions and an interactive session for feedback

The first technical session was chaired by Yash Paul Bourney, Registrar Vigilance and M.K. Sharma, Director, J&K Judicial Academy who analysed the art of order/ judgment writing and application of the

The second technical session was chaired by Jatinder Singh Jamwal, Special Judge, Anti-Corruption(CBI Cases) who explained by Sharing best practices and finding solutions to practical problems faced by Civil

Judges (Junior Division) in justice delivery. The interactive programme concluded with an interactive session during which the participants deliberated and discussed various aspects of the subject topic and raised queries which were satisfactorily settled by the resource persons.

Festival of.....

each other while exchanging pleasantries. "For Sikhs, Baisakhi is celebrated as the day of the creation of the Khalsa Panth. Baisakhi is really a sacred and pious day for the community and the community especially the youth should follow the path shown by Guru Gobind Singh Ji for peace and development," said Raina.

The APSCC Chairman said that every household of Sikh community celebrates Baisakhi day in nearby gurudwaras. "I appeal to all the sikh community on this auspicious day to remain united and calm for redressal of our long pending issues by the government and pray that our issues dont last for long", Raina said.

Raina alleged that the successive governments of Jammu and Kashmir have not taken the festival of Baisakhi seriously even though it is very important for the Sikh community.

He said that glaring issues like neglect of Punjabi language, unemployment and relatively less attention to the celebrations and festivals of sikh community are haunt-

ing the people of the community. "After criminalisation of politics in states and UTs now criminals are trying to enter religious organisations. It is my appeal to the Sikhs of Jammu and Kashmir to refrain from entertaining any criminal in Gurudwara affairs. The community should segregate themselves from such harmful elements and learn the less on of what happened in the past," Raina added.

Meanwhile, members of Sikh community attired in traditional dress took out a religious procession in uptown Srinagar ahead of the Baisakhi festival being celebrated on Friday.

Thousands Of.....

in Jammu and Kashmir's Bhaderwah district on Thursday to celebrate Baisakhi. Located at a height of 12.000 feet, the doors of the 1,600-year-old temple were

opened on Thursday. The festival marks the beginning of spring. The festival at this temple is considered the first Baisakhi in the country. In other other parts of the country, the festival will be

celebrated tomorrow. The traditional celebrations started early in morning with the opening of doors of the temple at Subar Dhar, 35 Km from Bhaderwah town that was followed by sacrificing of rams.

Thoursands of devotees converged at the temple after trekking 12 km steep hill to pay their obeisance to the Lord Subar Nag. On this occasion dozens of sheep were sacrificed as per ancient custom.

"This festival has not only the religious importance but this is also the most ancient festival of this area. Devotees from the different parts of the valley, including Chinta, Bhlaara and Sharora, arrive here with holy mace to get blessings of Lord Subhar Nag.

thrown open for the devotees this morning," Anil Kumar Raina, Head Priest said. Locals also demanded that the ancient

"The doors of 1,600-year-old temple were

spring festival be brought under pilgrimage tourism circuit. "This is not only ancient and historic

festival symbolizing the unique Nag culture but the temple is also located amid lush green grasslands surrounded with snow peaked mountain," said Phulail Singh (61) head organiser of the mela.

"Having all the ingredients to attract devotees and tourists from across the globe, the tourism department and BDA (Bhaderwah Development Authority) has done nothing concrete so for to project it as pilgrimage destination," Phulail Singh added.

"After four months during which we mostly remain indoors due to harsh climatic conditions and snow, this festival which marks the new spring season, not only rejuvenates us but also gives us a chance to meet our relatives and friends.

"Besides all our wishes are full filled by Lord Subhar Nag," a young devotee, Diksha

Superintendent of Police, Bhaderwah, Kameshwar Puri said elaborate security arrangements were made to facilitate the smooth conduct of the festival.

"A total of 15,000 devotees, including 9,500 women, visited the ancient temple. To keep the high altitude meadow clean and free from plastic waste, authorities had deployed men as well as kiosks were made for collection of polythene and plastic waste," said Puri. (Agencies)

Drone From.....

on Thursday.

They said five magazines of AK-47 rifle, 131 rounds of fire, Rs 2 lakh in cash and other items have been recovered from the packet attached to the drone. Sources said they suspect some other drones might have dropped weapons, explosives or such items and the search has been launched to recover them.

"On the intervening night of April 12 and 13, alert troops of Indian army in coordination with police recovered a drone, which crossed the Line of Control from Pakistan into Indian territory in Beri Pattan area of Sunderbani sector of the district," a defence spokesperson said.

Earlier official sources said suspicious movement of aerial objects was detected $in areas \, of \, Beri \, Patan, Siot \, of \, LoC \, after \, which \,$ a massive cordon and search operation was launched, they said.

In this operation, teams of security forces managed to bring down a drone, they

Sources claimed that extensive search operations are going on in many villages of this area and some more recoveries are expected.

"We can only share that a drone has been

successfully tracked and recovery has been made. More details will be shared later," an official had said earlier in the morning. Drones smuggling in arms, cash and narcotics have become a major challenge for security forces in border areas of both

International Border and Line of Control.

Officials have said that repeated attempts

are being made to drop these material to

fuel terror activities in Jammu and Kashmir. Water shortage.....

the area during the holy month of Rama-

The female protesters displaying empty buckets and pitchers blocked the road and disrupted traffic to attract the attention of the concerned authorities.

One of the female protesters told the news agency Kashmir News Trust that the scarcity of water in the area is making it difficult for them to get on with their life. She pointed out that they had submitted numerous appeals in black and white, to no avail.

"It is the heart of the city and still we have been reeling under acute shortage of water," the protesters said adding that concerned department had taken them for a ride, leaving them with no option but to stage

When contacted, an official said that matter will be looked into.

Fahad Shah's.....

"tantamount to glorifying the militant activities and causing dent to the image of law enforcing agencies besides causing ill-will & disaffection against the country.'

Advocate Umari Ronga, the Counsel for Fahad Shah told news agency Kashmir News Trust that Fahad's Public Safety Act petition reserved for the judgment since February has been pronounced. "Details have not emerged yet, at some appropriate time notice shall be given to the parties and whole judgment will be delivered." he said.

The Court of Justice Waseem Nagral has pronounced the order. "We haven't received details of judgment yet," Advocate Ronga

Meanwhile, if court sources are believed, the High Court has quashed the PSA of Sahah, though his Counsel said it will be premature to say anything at this point of

Babademb Lane.....

road connectivity," the residents told

news agency Kashmir News Trust. They said the condition persists since January 2020 after some drainage work was done in the area.

They said that driving two or four-wheelers on the existing road was fraught with dangers for both the motorist and pedestrians.

The residents appealed to Srinagar Municipal Corporation to come to their rescue by addressing their problem and providing them with better road connectivity in the area at the earliest.





No homework for students upto second standard

Maximum Of 10 To 12 Hours Class Work For Secondary, Higher Secondary Students

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, APR 13: Directorate of School Education Kashmir (DSEK) Thursday issued 'Homework Schedule' as per New Bag Policy-2020, according to which it said there shall be no homework for students upto second standard even as mandating a maximum of ten to twelve hours classwork for the secondary and higher secondary students each week.

"Heavy homework is an issue, which makes both students and parents stressed because as a general practice it needs to be completed by night and reported in the school next morning. This practice snatches the play time of child, parents' quality time with

child, activities leading to socialization with the family", reads a circular in this regard, a copy of which lies with GNS.

This practice, it remarked l, mars student's creativity and there remains no space for a teacher to inculcate creativity, critical thinking and other 21" century skills among students as envisaged in

"Moreover, it is often observed that homework beyond their capacity is being given to students while as Children should be given an opportunity for creative work at home in which they can take interest along with their family

Remarking further that children need to be encouraged to read



books beyond curriculum at home, need to discuss some of these the circular opines that there is a books in the school which will improve reading habits of children. "Book clubs may be opened in the school so that children can get variety of books free of cost in the school itself. Children need to be engaged with creative activities and critical thinking, group discussions so that they can express themselves without any fear.

Continuing it, the circular says there will be no homework up to Class-II and a maximum of two hours a week from Classes III-V and for middle schools from Classes VI-VIII, there shall be a maximum of one hour a day that is about five to six hours a week.

For the secondary and higher secondary level there shall be a maximum of two hours a day (about 10 to 12 hours a week).

"Teachers need to work together to plan and rationalise the amount of homework that they assign to students," emphasises the circular.

Remarking that further it has been given to understand that all the concerned teachers of a particular class assign homework without coordinating with each other and thus resulting in heavy burden of homework for a student, the circular further reads that as such it is impressed upon the all the school heads of (both government and private) to ensure that the homework to students is given as per the School Bag Policy 2020 replicated above and strictly adhere to the said schedule without any deviation.

Complex double heart valve surgery performed at Super **Specialty Hospital Jammu**

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, APR 13: A complex double heart valve surgery was successfully performed by the Department of Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery (CVTS) Super Specialty Hospital(SSH)GovernmentMedicalCollege(GMC)Jammu. A doctor at the hospital told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that a 25-year-old female patient was suffering from Rheumatic Heart Disease with Severe Mitral and Severe Aortic Valve Disease. She had multiple admissions for severe heart valve-related problems in GMC Jammu and had been advised surgery long back, he said.

"The patient was very sick in advanced NYHA functional class and was bedridden. For most of the vital organs, besides oral, she needed aggressive injectable pharmacotherapy for weeks together before surgery," the doctor said, adding that the patient was operated on under total Cardiopulmonary Bypass (when Aorta is cross-clamped and the heart is not beating) and moderate hypothermia (decreased temperature during surgery).

"The patient had severely diseased, dystrophic, calcific, stenotic and regurgitant valves. Her diseased Mitral and Aortic Valve were excised, calcium was removed and both the valves were replaced with St Jude prosthesis," the doctor added.

The Cardiac Anesthesia team was led by the Head of Cardio-Thoracic Anesthesia Department Professor (Dr) Pooja Vimesh, and was assisted by Dr Rasmeet, Dr Vikas, Senior Residents and Residents. Senior and other technologists from CTA Vikas Sharma, Sumit and Arif were part of the team. Anesthesia was so smooth that the intraoperative period, extubation and post-operative period were uneventful, the doctor said.

The surgical team led by DrIA Mir included Dr Arvind Kohli, Dr Shyam Singh, Dr Mohit Arora, Dr Vivek Gandotra, Dr Javaid Banday. The Cardiopulmonary machine (which functions for heart/lung during surgery) as usual was run by Sr Perfusionist Charan Jeet Singh and Roshan Lal. Scrub side/flooring and support services were led by Sr staff Vishaali besides Sapna Kumari, Balvir Kour, Fareena, Renu Nathyal, Rigzen Angmo, Sonia Sharma, Arjumand Shaheen, Susheel Sharma, Sunil and Deepak.

The operating surgeon Dr I A Mir said that before the surgery, the patient needed consultations with the Department of Cardiology, Neurology, Nephrology, Chest Disease Medicine, Dermatology and Dentistry.

No surgery performed at DH Shopian in last two days as DG set develops technical snag

We are on it, will rectify it soon: MS

HT News Network

SHOPIAN, APR 13: No surgeries were performed at district hospital Shopian for the last two days as the diesel generator set has developed some technical snag even as authorities claim they are working to rectify it as soon as possible.

Several patients from district Shopian whose surgeries were scheduled on Wednesday and Thursday have been delayed as no surgeries were performed.

Waseem Ahmad, a patient, told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer(KNO), that surgery of his sister was scheduled on Wednesday, however, they had to return other hospital, they will have to back after they were informed that DG set isn't working properly.

This being a district hospital should have a backup facility available as technical snags can happen anytime, he said.

Another patient said that the hospital has a hot line and they can perform surgeries if they want but it seems they are least bothered about it.

He said that this being a district hospital and authorities should have made alternate arrangements within hours as even two days have passed but no steps have been taken yet.

Patients along with attendants said that they can't visit some other hospital this time for surgeries as if they will visit some go through tests and other diagnosis again and it will further



delay our treatment. They requested District Mag-

istrate Shopian, CMO Shopian and other officials to take immediate

steps in this regard so that poor patients won't have to suffer anymore. Dr Rubina Deputy Chief Medical Officer Shopian who has been given charge of Medical Superintendent District Hospital as well while talking to KNO acknowledged that surgeries haven't been performed at the hospital as DG set has developed some snag and is giving around 300 v power.

"If we will put it in use it can damage all our equipment worth crores. There was a power shutdown on Wednesday and operating without backup can prove fatal," she said. "We are on it and will either make any alternate arrangement or rectify the errors of the existing DG set as soon as possible."

Stone quarry worker dies after falling from cliff in G'bl

GANDERBAL, APR 13: In a tragic incident, a worker fell to death at a stone quarry in the Safapora area of central Kashmir's Ganderbal district on Thursday. An official told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that a worker Gulzar Ahmad Mir, son of Ghulam Mohammad Mir, a resident of Kondbal Safapora, who was working at a stone quarry lost his balance and fell from a high cliff, resulting

in his death on the spot. Police were immediately informed and a team from the local police station was dispatched to the site, the official said, adding that the police have started an investigation in this regard.

Nepal man found dead in Nallah Sindh at Kangan

GANDARBAL, APR 13: The body of a Nepalese national was found in Nallah Sindh in central Kashmir's Kangan area on Thursday, officials said.

An official told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that the body that was recovered from Nallah Sindh was identified as Chabi Lal Vishwakarma, a Nepalese national and son of Nar Singh, resident of

"The body was spotted by locals during evening hours and was immediately reported to the authorities. Upon arriving at the scene, the police launched an investigation and were able to identify the deceased," they said. The cause of death has not been determined yet while a thorough investigation has been started in this regard, they said.

Chadoora Road Accident:

Critical teenager succumbs, say Officials

BUDGAM, APR 13: One among the two teenagers, who was critically injured in a road accident at Chadoora area of Central Kashmir's Budgam district on Wednesday afternoon, succumbed to his injuries, officials said on Thursday. Officials sources told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that two teenagers were injured after the bike they were riding on skidded off the road at Borwah area of Chadoora.

He identified the injured as Imran Farooq son of Farooq Ahmad Lone (15) and Moomin Altaf son of Mohammad Altaf Sheikh (18)—both residents of Yarikalan Chadoora.

He said the duo was shifted to sub-district hospital Nagam where from they were shifted to SMHS and Bone and joint hospital Srinagar.

An official told KNO that one among them (Imran) who was being treated with head injury succumbs to his injuries, while another is being treated and stated to be stable.

Meanwhile, police have taken cognizance of the incident and have started further investigation in this regard.

DGP greets people, JK Police parivar on Baisakhi, Dr B R Ambedkar's Jayanti

JAMMU, APR 13: Director General of Police (DGP) Dilbag Singh Thursday greeted the people of the UT, families of Police martyrs, JK Police personnel & forces and their families on the auspicious occasions of Baisakhi and Birthday of Dr B R Ambedkar.

In his message issued to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), the DGP said that the Baisakhi festival is celebrated to welcome the new harvesting season of the year and on this special day the great Saint Warrior Shri Guru Gobind Singh Ji Maharaj has created Khalsa Panth, who are committed to serve others without a thought for own wellbeing.

He prayed for communal harmony and brotherhood among the people of J&K UT.

 $On the occasion of Bharat\,Ratna\,Dr\,Ambedkarjayan tithe$ DGP said that the modest beginnings of his life and becoming the pioneer of Indian Constitution, Dr Ambedkar's life is an inspiration to follow and to make the nation proud.



World famous Qari-Quran from Iran, Aaqayi Ahsaan Bayaat Hamdani recite the Holy Quran at Jamia Masjid Srinagar during his visit to the Valley in Srinagar on Thursday.

Block Diwas held at Drabgam, Pulwama Massive public participation in Block Diwas, a reflection of People's confidence in Govt. & Admin: DC

HT News Network

PUBLICATIONHEADLINES

TODAY

PULWAMA, APRIL 13: The District Administration Pulwama held Block Diwas at Eidgah Drabgam-A to assess the local issues and listen to the grievances of the people for speedy disposal of the same with the intervention of senior government officers and representatives of panchayat institutions.

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Pulwama, Baseer Ul Haq Choudhary chaired the public outreach programme and redressed hundreds of grievances on the spot.

Several public issues including road connectivity to uncovered areas, macadamization of interior roads, availability of sports stadium/ playground for youth, establishment of Post



around higher secondary school, completion of under construction building in HSS, providing of bore well and better drinking water facilities, allopathic primary health centre in the area, establishment of tim-

ber sale depot, Bridge at Nallah Romshi, development of irrigation khul and augmentation of the health infrastructure were projected by the local people and PRIs.The DC gave a patient hearing to the griev-

ances raised and assured

quality disposal of genuine issues in a time-bound manner. He directed the concerned department heads/ officers to resolve the same expeditiously and submit the action taken report before next scheduled block diwas.

The various hurdles and bottlenecks in the social security schemes were also resolved on the spot with the convergence of multiple departments.

He also gave on-the-spot directions for the redressal of many issues of urgent nature as per the competence of concerned Departments.The DC further added that District Administration is ensuring to provide all facilities to the people at their doorsteps and in this regard necessary instructions are already given to line departments.

DC Ganderbal visits proposed venue for Youth Entrepreneurship Festival Reviews infrastructural requirements at venue for carrying various events

HT News Network

GANDERBAL, APRIL 13: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Shyambir inspected the available infrastructure in GDC Ganderbal where many events related to Youth Entrepreneurship Festival are to be

During the visit, the DC took a round of available infrastructure at GDC and gave necessary instructions for carrying out various activities during the Festi-

The DC directed for making the Youth Lane alongside the venue where a number of Youth Engaging Mural Paintings shall be painted on the walls.

He also directed for setting up an Entrepreneur-



GDC where Innovation labs, Idea Incubation labs and Tinkering Labs shall be set.

Shyambir said that a committee shall be framed which will make the Entrepreneurship Development Cell functional. The comship Development Cell in mittee shall comprise experts of innovation and entrepreneurship and representatives from college

administration. The DC also checked the venue for Success and Innovation talk events in which experts of innovation and successful entrepreneurs of the district shall deliver their sessions and share their success stories.

The land for the Public library was also identified and it was directed to submit the plan and start the construction of the building

as soon as possible. The DC said that the Youth are the backbone of the district and they must be empowered and exposed to these types of activities for the progress of the coun-

The DC was accompanied by ADDC Ganderbal, Mushtaq Ahmad Simnani; ExEn R&B and Tehsildar Ganderbal during the visit. The DC said that the Youth are the backbone of the district and they must be empowered and exposed to these types of activities for the progress of the country.

Meeting on NEP-2020 implementation convened at Anantnag

HT News Network

ANANTNAG, APRIL 13: In order to implement the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 in its true essence in the district, the Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Anantnag, Dr S.M Ashraftoday convened a meeting of heads of Government institutes and other stakeholders.

The ADC emphasised upon the heads of institutes to ensure that no violation of NEP 2020 is taking place in any of the institutes run by the government or pri-



vate agencies. Taking strong note of overburden of school bags on innocent children, the ADC said that the books must be as per the prescribed syllabus and as per the rules and provisions of the NEP 2020. He said while there are guidelines laid

down in the NEP 2020 for syllabus, tuition fee, school hours, timings, qualification of teachers, age for admission, curricular activities etc and violation of these specified rules will invite action under law.Quoting teachers as nation builders, ADC said that it is our moral as well as social duty to provide the better and result oriented education to our future generation. He authorised the Task force committees of the education department to take the necessary and appropriate action against the violators

DC Baramulla reviews Capex Budget 2022-23; formulation of Plan 2023-24

HT News Network

BARAMULLA, APRIL 13: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, Dr Syed Sehrish Asgar today chaired a meeting of heads of line departments at her office chamber here to review the progress of projects being executed in the district under District Capex budget 2022-23 and formulation of Plan for financial year 2023-24.On the occasion, the DC was apprised with regard to projects being executed by various departments in

the district. She was also

informed about the plans



to be prepared for the financial year 2023-24.After reviewing the sector wise progress of the projects, the DC impressed upon all the departments/executing agencies to ensure timely completion of all developmental works in a time bound manner.Reviewing the issues hampering the

pace of progress, the DC asked the concerned to monitor the pace of progress on a regular basis and resolve the issues hampering the progress of several works at an earliest. The DC directed the officers to put $in \, best \, efforts \, for \, maximum \,$ and optimum utilization of funds under different.

World Oral Health Day celebrated at Ganderbal

HT News Network

GANDERBAL, APRIL 13: The District Administration Ganderbal in collaboration with Chief Medical Officer Ganderbal today organized Dental Awareness cum Hygiene Camp here in the lawns of Mini Secretariat Ganderbal as part of World Oral Health Day. The Camp was organized with the purpose to raise awareness about the importance of oral hygiene among the people. During the program, oral health care awareness and screening was conducted for people visiting the DC office. They were taught about brushing techniques and other oral hygiene instructions. Free medicines, mouth washes, hygiene kits, toothbrushes were also distributed among the participants.Dr. Amira Majid said the World Oral Health Day is observed annually to raise global awareness of the issues around oral health and the importance of oral hygiene. She said that a healthy mouth leads to a healthy body. She explained the impact of oral health on overall health and the role of a balanced diet.

DC Bandipora chairs NCORD meeting

of NEP 2020.

Highlights need for Coordinated efforts to prevent Drug Abuse & Addiction

HT News Network

BANDIPORA, APRIL 13: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Dr. Owais Ahmed on Thursday chaired a meeting of District Level Committee under Narco-Coordination Centre (NCORD) Mechanism & Cigarette and Other **Tobacco Products Prohibition Act** (COTPA), at Mini Secretariat, here.

The meeting discussed in detail ways and means to curb the drug menace and the role of various stakeholders. It also discussed the alarming issue of drug addiction and abuse and strategies to tackle this issue.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC highlighted the need for coordinated efforts between government



agencies, healthcare providers, civil society organizations and community leaders to effectively address the drug problem.

Dr. Owais stressed on more inten-

sive awareness campaigns to edu-

cate the public on the dangers of

drug abuse, improved access to

addiction treatment and support services, and stronger regulation of the pharmaceutical shops to prevent the illegal distribution of banned drugs.

The DC also highlighted the role of various stakeholders in addressing the drug crisis, including law enforcement agencies, healthcare professionals, educators, parents and religious heads.

He emphasized the importance of collaboration and a unified approach in order to effectively combat the drug menace.

Dr. Owais said that we must work in coordination to address this issue and ensure that our communities are equipped with the knowledge and resources they need to prevent drug abuse and support those struggling with addiction.

SVEEP awareness program held at HSS DH Pora

Faroog Rather

KULGAM, APRIL 13: Systematic Voters **Education and Electoral Participation** (SVEEP) awareness program for Special Summary Revision (SSR) of Photo Electoral Rolls was today organized by District SVEEP Team Kulgam at Govt. Higher Secondary School (GHSS) DH Pora, here.

SDM Noorabad (ERO), Bashir Ul Hassan was chief guest on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, the SDM stressed on awareness and said that youth should learn how to cast their vote for the right candidate.

The SDM said a voter is responsible for his/her vote as one vote can decide the future of the country or any region.

He stressed upon BLOs to register every eligible candidate before the qualifying



dates.Tehsildar/AERO, Principal Govt. Higher Secondary School DH Pora, SVEEP Master Trainers, young prospective voters, BLOs, Aashas and ICDS workers and students of GHSS D.HPora attended the program. Tehsildar/AERO, Principal Govt. Higher Secondary School DH Pora, SVEEP Master Trainers, young prospective voters, BLOs, Aashas and ICDS workers.

LOST OF RC

I have lost RC of my vechile (Etiqa) bearing Ragistration No: JK10A/0242 While travelling from at Home . 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 R T O Leh Ladakh within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Name;-Stanzin Chomat S/o:- Tsewang Choldan R/o:- Leh Ladakh

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost my Passport bearing No: V8692357 somewhere. 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 Regional Passport Office Srinagar within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Shafayat Hussain Dar S/o. Ghulam Rasool Dar R/o. Durbal Bemina Srinagar

Khan, Gupta administered oath of office as PSC members

HT News Network

Srinagar, Apr 13: Tariq

Ahmad Khan and Sanjeev Gupta, members of Jammu & Kashmir Public Service Commission, were administered the oath of office in Jammu on Thursday. As per news agency, Kashmir News Observer, Chairman Public Service Commission Subash Chandra administered the office of office and secrecy to Khan (former director general, Planning Development & Monitoring Department) and Gupta (former district and session's judge).

Khan, a man of impeccable integrity, held key postings in his service career of more than three decades.

A gold medalist from Kashmir University, Khan played a crucial role in accelerating the development process in Jammu & Kash-

In his illustrious career of



36 years, he worked in various capacities in the Health and Medical Education Department, Planning Development & Monitoring Department, Public Works Department, Power Dev Development and Finance Department. In 2020, Jammu & Kash-

mir government conferred him with the UT award for meritorious public services. Khan did his post-graduation in Commerce and MPhil in Management Accounting. He joined Planning & Statistics Service in 1993 and superannuated in April

Farooq Rather

Continuing its Public outreach programme, kulgam police has observed Thana Diwas at police station *DH Pora*, police station *Devsar*, police station *Kund* and police station *Behibagh*. The meetings were chaired by respective jurisdictional Police officers and were attended by the respectable citizens of surroundingareasof*Kanchloo, Kraloo, Kund, Palnoo, Matipora, Behibagh, DH Pora, Pahloo, Devsar* including respectable members of *Auqaf Committees, Numberdars, Chowkidars and Traders Federation*.

Kulgam: April 13, 2023

During the meetings, participants highlighted various issues of public importance and they were assured that their genuine grievances pertaining to Police will be resolved on



Kulgam Police observed Thana Diwas

priority and that of civil administration will be taken up with the concerned departments for their early redressal. While speaking on the occasion, it was reiterated that policing at grassroot level in the district would be revamped to enhance proficiencies of the cops and to develop confidence among the peo-

Chairing officers while speaking on the occasion, said that Thana Diwas is an initiative started by the Government of J&K to bridge the gap between Police and Public and also to hear and redress the grievances of common masses and further added that community policing is mandatory to boost public confidence which would help in fighting against crime and social evils.

Referring to the criminal activities in these areas, it was stressed upon the officers to brace up with a missionary spirit to fight against drug abuse and eradicate

other social evils from the society and to take a pledge to serve the society with missionary spirit and maintain the dignity of force. The participants were stressed to co-operate with Police in maintaining Law and order and identifying antinational and anti-social elements who always try to disrupt the peaceful environment.

The participants appreciated the role of Police for conducting such interactive meetings. Chairing officers while speaking on the occasion, said that Thana Diwas is an initiative started by the Government of J&K to bridge the gap between Police and Public and also to hear and redress the grievances of common masses and further added that community policing is mandatory to boost public confidence which would help in fighting against crime and social evils.



Kathua Admin intensifies Voter Awareness Campaigns to Bolster Electoral System

District Information Centre spurs Electoral Literacy through Special Social Media campaig

HT News Network

13TH HEADLINES

KATHUA, APRIL 13: In furtherance to its resolve to Bolster Democratic System, District Election Office Kathua is taking varied measures to encourage voter participation through systematic Voter Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) activities.

The district has already launched several initiatives, which will continue till 20th April 2023 under the ongoing Special Summary Revision (SSR-2023).

As part of the SVEEP program, the district election office is organizing a series of awareness campaigns and initiatives to increase voter participation. These activities include awareness rallies, Pledges, signature campaigns, and door to door campaigning, among

The district election office has also set up Voter Facilitation Centres at all the Polling Stations where citizens can register to vote, update their voter ID cards, and find other election-related information. The centres are equipped with trained personnel to provide



necessary assistance to voters and it also toral process. provides a platform for the dissemination of voter awareness literature.

Furthermore, the District Information Centre Kathua has also launched a social media campaign to reach out to young eligible & Prospective voters by sharing information about the ongoing activities besides disseminating information about the Electoral Process. The campaign includes the use of social media platforms such as Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and WhatsApp to engage with the youth and encourage them to participate in the elec-

Besides, the district election office has partnered with local schools and colleges to spread awareness about the importance of voting among students. This initiative aims to encourage students who have attained the age of 18 to get enrolled and participate in the upcoming elections.

Pertinently, the SVEEP program is receiving tremendous support and enthusiastic response from all the citizens who have pledged their support to become an active participant in the electoral process.

J&K Pollution Control Committee Conducts Public Hearing Near Mata Mandir (Rei) Tapyal

HT News Network

SAMBA, APRIL 13: Jammu and Kashmir Pollution Control committee today conducted public hearing for the Environmental Clearance of Minor Mineral (River Bed Material) Block 4/2 Bein River upstream NH1A bridge, Block 4/3 Bein River upstream NH1A bridge and Block 4/4 Bein River Downstream NH1A Samba Near Mata Mandir (Rei) Tapyal, Samba.

A large number of the



people & public Representatives Including DDC Member, BDC Chairman, Sarpanches/Panches of the adjoining Panchavat like Tapyal, Rei, and Raghuchak participated in the proceed-

During proceedings of

public hearing, Deepak Abrol, Divisional Officer,

JKPCC, Samba (South) briefed the public about the importance of conducting public hearing & Role of JKPCC. Project consultant from M/s Vitasta Enviro

Service Pvt Ltd., Jaipur gave

the details about salient features and Environmental impact Assessment (EIA) & Environment management plan of the project.

All the related issues were discussed and queries raised were answered by the project consultant.

Rakesh Dubey, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Samba and Mohammad Sayeed, District Mineral Officer, Samba also attended the public hearing and addressed the gathering. They assured that all the importantissues/concerns raised by project affected people were video record.

Change of Land Use: DLC approves 02 cases in Rajouri

HT News Network

RAJOURI, APRIL 13: The District Level Committee (DLC) on change of land today approved two cases of conversion of agricultural land to non-agricultural use here at its meeting.

The meeting was chaired by Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal, which held a thorough discussion on the applications received online from across the district. The Committee, after a threadbare discussion, approved 02 cases of conversion of agricultural land for non agricultural purposes. Necessary directions were also issued to the concerned departments to ensure timely issuance of No Objection Certificates (NOCs) after $proper \, verification \, of \, documents \, and \, rules$ under land conversion Regulations, 2022.

Deputy Commissioner pays rich tributes to martyrs on Rajouri Day

HT News Network

RAJOURI, APRIL 13: Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal, today visited ALG ground to pay tributes to the brave civilians who sacrificed their lives for the liberation of Rajouri from Pakistani invaders, marking the occasion of Rajouri

During the visit, the Deputy Commissioner interacted with the families of the fallen heroes as well as with the civilians and Army officers present at the event. He expressed his gratitude for their contribution towards the overall development of the region and emphasized the importance of unity and cooperation among all



stakeholders for maintaining peace and harmony in the district.

"Rajouri Day is a solemn occasion to honor the memory of the brave civilians who fought valiantly for the liberation of Rajouri. Their sacrifices will always be remembered and serve as an inspiration for generations to come," said Deputy Commissioner Kundal.

Margan Top Road opened after winter halt

Vehicle movement to be allowed within one week

HT News Network

KISHTWAR, APRIL 13: After a long winter halt, the Margan Top Road in district Kishtwar has finally been opened officially. The road connects the remote regions of Marwah and Warwan with the rest of Jammu and Kashmir. The road was cleared of snow with the tireless efforts of the Prime Minister Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) Projects of Marwah (Kishtwar) and Vailoo (Anantnag).

The road's opening is a significant achievement that will bring much-needed relief to the people by easing mobility and transportation of essential goods.

Making the announcement, Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar Dr Devansh Yadav shared that the road would be opened for light vehicular movement from next week. "The opening of the road will facilitate intra-district movement of people and essential services, bringing muchneeded respite to the region" he said.

Starting next week, the Margan Top Road will be made operational in a phased manner, enabling hassle-free travel and commute well before the auspicious Eid-ul-Fitr 2023 celebration.

DDC Chairperson Ramban reviews progress on development works, discusses District Capex Plan 2023-24

HT News Network

RAMBAN, APRIL 13: Chairperson, District Development Council, Ramban Shamshad Shan today chaired a meeting of sectoral officers here to review the status of developmental projects undertaken in the district besides discussing the District Capex Plan 2023-24.

DDC members and Chairpersons of Block **Development Councils** besides Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Rajinder Sharma, CPO Dr. Kasturi Lal and other district and sectoral officers attended the meeting.

During the meeting, the



upcoming projects of RDD, R&B, PMGSY, PHE, JPDCL and other Departments was

reviewed thoroughly. After a comprehensive discussion, the officers briefed the chair about the current status of developmental activities undertaken in the district by their concerned departments.

The Chairperson impressed that plan formu-

status of work of the lation is essential for planned development of the district and exhorted

> to identify works of community benefit. All Departments were asked to share the list of ongoing and upcoming projects to be taken up during the financial year and also progress reports with

the DDC.

the DDC members to carry

out a detailed gap analysis

It was also reiterated that DDC members & other public representatives be taken on board both during the planning as well as the implementation phase of the projects for better outcomes. The DDC Chairperson

strongly recommended that Gram Sabha must be conducted in each Panchayat to discuss and finalize the Plan Proposals under all the sectors and implementation of the schemes on ground.

She said that overall development keeping in view welfare of all the people particularly from the vulnerable sections should be the driver for identifying works.

District Administration, JK Tourism, Indian Army, BRO

Kathua Admin discusses preparations for upcoming **Ed-ul-Fitr and Parshuram Jayanti**

HT News Network

KATHUA, APRIL 13: Deputy Commissioner Kathua, Rahul Pandey today chaired a meeting to discuss the preparations for the forthcoming festivals of Ed-ul-Fitr and Parshuram Jayanti. The meeting was attended by officials from various departments, including the police, municipal committees and representatives of the civil society. During the meeting, the DC said that these festivals should be celebrated peacefully and with due respect to the religious sentiments of all communities. The officials discussed various arrangements that needed to be made, including security arrangements, traffic management, fire tender, medical facilities and the provision of essential services such as water and electricity during the festivals. The DC also urged the officials to ensure that all the necessary arrangements are put in place well in time. The meeting decided to form a committee to oversee the preparations for the festivals and to monitor the implementation of various initiatives. The DC instructed the officials to work closely with the representatives of the Muslim and Hindu communities to ensure that the festivals were celebrated in a spirit of communal harmony.

DC flags off Jal Jeevan Mission Prachar Rath at Udhampur

HT News Network

UDHAMPUR, APRIL 13: To spread awareness among the general public of the District about Jal Jeevan Mission "Har Ghar Nal Se Jal," Deputy Commissioner, Udhampur Krittika Jyotsna flagged off a Prachar Rath in presence of SE and Executive Engineer Jal Shakti department.

While briefing the media persons, the DC said that the prachar Rath carries a message to create public awareness about the Jal Jeevan Mission and other related activities among the people of the District.

The DC informed that the Parchar Rath will create awareness among the general public about different components of JJM, Water testing role of pani samitis and water

conservation.

The DC added that the Prachar Rath will cover Udhampur, Ramnagar and Chenani Sub Division to inform people about the IJM schemes launched by the Prime Minister of India to provide safe drinking water to each household with the theme "Har Ghar Nal Se Jal ".

The SE apprised the DC that of the total of 159 schemes sanctioned under Jal Jeevan Mission for Udhampur District, work on 73 schemes is going on so far. He said that the tendering process of 153 schemes have been completed. He further elaborated that the work on most of the taken up schemes is in progress and every effort is being made by the department to complete the schemes in the district within given time line.

come Together to celebrate Baisakhi Utsav in Paddar **HT News Network**

KISHTWAR, APRIL 13:

The Baisakhi Utsav celebration was today kicked off with multifarious activities in Paddar by District Administration Kishtwar in collaboration with JK Tourism, Indian Army & BRO.

The event was graced by the august presence of Deputy Commissioner, Dr. Devansh Yadav, ADC, Inderjeet Singh Parihar, ASP, Rajinder Singh, ACR Varunjeet Singh Charak, SDM Paddar Dr Rishi Kumar Sharma along with Tehsildar Atho-

li Satish Kumar, BDO Nagseni Anjil Singh, BDO Dachhan Ravi Kumar, Officers of the Indian Army Lt Col 17 RR Anshuman Patil, 2 OC BRO besides District and sectoral officers besides PRIs & Locals.

The celebration featured a range of activities, including River Rafting, Wrestling (Dangal), Beach Volley Ball, Rapling & Zip line near the river bank of Gosi, Paddar.

Meanwhile, the Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar, in the presence of Sarpanch Gulabgarh, DYSSO Kishtwar Kharati Lal, inaugurated the maiden Day- Night



showcasing the local and

traditional taste of Paddar,

were also put up by NRLM

SHG members which were

inspected by Deputy Com-

missioner and other digni-

Cricket competition at the prestigious Sports Stadium of Gulabgarh. In all 7 local teams will lock their horns in the tournament. The finale of tournament will be held tomorrow on 14th

the event.

Pertinent to mention that on April 14th, the Bikers of CRPF & Bike club Group, Jammu will take the Bike Rally across the cliff Hanger (Asia,s 2nd hazardous Road) on the Galhar-Sansari axis via Sohal and Tiyari, starting from Gulabgarh in the morning. The Bullet Bike rally from Jammu will carry Nasha Mukht message en-route.

In addition to these activities, the Baisakhi Utsav celebration also featured a musical programme that saw performance of local taries and officers during artists and musicians.

Tahira Tabassum demands opening of Mughal Road

Continuous closure of road causing great inconvenience to Pirpanjal residents

M S Nazki

Surankote: Social Worker & Sarpanch Buffliaz B Tahira Tabassum has demanded the opening of Mughal Road.

Tabassum said that it was unfortunate that the concerned authorities who were responsible to keep the historic alternative road to Kashmir keep it operational have failed to do so.

"The Mughal Road which was supposed to open in the first week of March is still closed and the people are not allowed to travel on the road which connects Pirpanjal region with Kashmir Valley," he said. She further said that



hundreds of people travel from one region to another for a health checkups, education purposes, tourism, trade and for other purposes."The people in Pirpanjal Region are the worst sufferers as many of them go to SKIMS Srinagar for medical checkups, and employees from Rajouri and Poonch have been posted in parts of Kashmir," She said. She further said that "Similarly many students from this region study in various educational institutions including universities of Kashmir but they face inconvenience due to closure of the road."She said that the authorities should know that their delaying practice has affected hundreds of lives.

Baisakhi celebration: PSPS GCW Gandhi Nagar hosts Kite making Competition

JAMMU, APRIL 13: Department of Botany, Padma Shri Padma Sachdev, Govt. College for Women, Gandhi Nagar today organized a "Kite Making Competition" to celebrate Baisakhi Festival.The programme was held under the patronage of Principal Prof. Minu Mahajan and supervision of Prof. Mala Bhasin, Head Department of Botany.

A total of 23 students of the Botany department participated in the event. A range of colourful kites were made by the students of BSc. Semester-2, with full zeal and enthusiasm. The programme was judged by Dr. Harjeet Kour Sodhi and Dr. Anju Koul of Department of Botany.





EDITORIAL

Water Crisis In The Valley of Gushing Streams...

As the holy month of Ramadan approaches, Srinagar, the capital city of Jammu and Kashmir, is facing a severe shortage of water. The situation has been exacerbated by the ongoing conflict in the region and the mismanagement of resources by the local authorities.

Water is a vital resource for human survival, and its shortage can have dire consequences, particularly in a month where Muslims fast from dawn to dusk. The availability of water during this period is of utmost importance, as it is needed for both consumption and purification. However, in Srinagar, the situation is dire, with residents facing long hours without access to clean water.

The primary reason for the water shortage in Srinagar is the mismanagement of resources by the local authorities. The government has failed to adequately address the issue of water scarcity, despite being aware of it for years. Instead, they have focused their attention on other issues, leaving the water crisis to worsen.

In a recent event, the female protesters displaying empty buckets and pitchers blocked the road and disrupted traffic to attract the attention of the concerned authorities in the Batamaloo area of Srinagar city. The scarcity of water in the area is making it difficult for them to get on with their life.

There has been an increase in the events like these that came in the forefront in last couple of months with the difficulties being increased in the Holy month of Ramadan.

The lack of water has severe consequences for the people of Srinagar, especially during Ramadan. The fast is a time of spiritual reflection and increased devotion to Allah, but it is also a time of physical deprivation. Without access to water, Muslims in Srinagar will face increased difficulty in completing their fasts, which can lead to dehydration and other health issues. Moreover, the lack of water also limits their ability to perform ablution, a necessary ritual before

The situation in Srinagar requires urgent attention from the government and other relevant stakeholders. First, the government must prioritize the provision of clean water to its citizens, especially during Ramadan. This can be achieved by investing in infrastructure and improving the management of water resources. The government should also work with humanitarian organizations to ensure that water is distributed fairly and efficiently.

Finally, it is crucial that the people of Srinagar also take steps to conserve water. Water conservation measures such as fixing leaks, reducing water usage, and recycling wastewater can go a long way in reducing water scarcity. Furthermore, it is essential that people come together to share resources, such as wells and tanks, to ensure that everyone has access to water.

In conclusion, the water shortage in Srinagar during Ramadan is a severe problem that requires urgent attention. The government must prioritize the provision of water to its citizens, work towards resolving the ongoing conflict, and encourage water conservation. Moreover, the people of Srinagar must come together to support one another and ensure that everyone has access to this vital resource. By working together, we can overcome this crisis and ensure that everyone in Srinagar has access to clean water, especially during Ramadan.

Special Education For Children With Intellectual Disability



Intellectual Disability or Mental Retardation is considerably sub-average brain functioning, existing from the early infancy or birth and results into limitations of the capability of conducting normal activ-

ities for the everyday living. **Definition:** Intellectual disability, also known as "mental retardation," is described by the IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) as "considerably sub-average common intellectual functioning, offered concurrently [altogether] with the deficits in adaptive actions and clear during the development period which adversely affects child's educational operation." Two main components are there in this definition: student's IQ as well as his or her ability to work independently generally known as the adaptive behaviour.

Common Traits of Intellectual Disability

According to the NICHCY (National Dissemination Center for Children with Disabilities), the IQ under 70-75 specifies an intellectual disability. The deficits of "adaptive behaviour" quoted by IDEA prove to be trickier to assess. Factors considered consist of the ability to comprehend and take part in the conversations, to understand and pursue social norms as well as to do activities like getting dressed or using the bathroom. NICHCY clarifies that the sources of intellectual disabilities differ from pregnancy problems and complications during birth to general conditions (like fragile X-syndrome or Down syndrome) and physical problems early in the life, together with diseases like measles, contact with toxic substances like mercury or lead, etc.

Many traits may point towards the intellectual disability. The NICHD (National Institute of Child Health and Human Development) has listed the following early indicators:

- Delay in reaching developmental milestones like talking and sitting up
- The problem in comprehending conventional social behaviours or understanding the action conse-
- The problem in remembering things
- Weaker problem-solving skills

Mentally retarded children lack social and theoretical abilities. They can't match well with the others because of language underdevelopment and face difficulty in education as well as dealing with everyday actions. Their IQ ranking is lower than average however this doesn't indicate that these kids can't learn how to look after themselves. The level of learning relies on the problem's difficulty level. Majority of children can be taught a sufficient amount if suitable care and the environment is given to them. They can live a partly independent life.

Need for Special Educational Curriculum for Them

The children who are suffering from the intellectual disability need a special education curriculum. Certain other activities like music, dance, yoga, art & craft etc. may be introduced for these children so that they can understand how to work together while doing the activities. They must also get physical training that can include games, sports, and drills. Their interaction skills may be improved using the sign language. This entire procedure of conveying education to them relies on the aim to make these children as much autonomous as possible. Rather than offering them studious knowledge, they need to be taught everyday activities and skills.

The myth is that intellectually disabled children can only be educated if they are trained together in an institution. They need care and inclusion to find out the ways of autonomous living. The government also promises educational and more services for them.

Their wide-ranging educational plans need to be developed through a team of paediatricians, physicians, speech therapists, and adolescent psychiatrist with the help of school authorities and family as per the retardation level. Before you introduce the child in a classroom, his mental issues should be tackled properly. No weakness should be build up in the child because it can obstruct the enthusiasm of learning. Great care should be taken while choosing whether a child should be sent to a normal school or should be sent to any special school. At times, some wrong decisions may overburden his capabilities and put extra strain on the limitations also. Despite offering academic awareness, they need to be taught activity modification methods and must be vocationally trained for the occupations as well as live autono-

In India, significant prevalence is there for mental retardation with urban and rural areas. According to the Persons with Disabilities Act, there needs to be obligatory support for early detection, prevention, employment, education, and personal facilities with psychological retardation.

Special education has become one type of treatment for a person suffering from intellectual disabilities. All these children need services of different experts. Special education may aid in assimilating the skills and knowledge from different disciplines and may



join them. Special educators may prove to become the most important and inventive persons for children dealing with intellectual disability problems.

Educational Challenges

Being parents you can have doubts about education and the long-term future of your child. Teachers can definitely see that giving education to students having intellectual disabilities associated with many challenges. However, the fact is that they will study but they will take longer time. Clearly, intellectual disability produces a lot of educational challenges which must be defeated. These include:

- Difficulty in completing difficult tasks
- Improper behaviour
- **Limited vocabulary**
- The problem in understanding new thoughts
- **Tips for Parents and Teachers**

Educating people who are suffering from intellectual disabilities needs patience and awareness. Awareness engages a serious effort of choosing words and activities wisely. For example, if a student shows artistic talent, support him or her through offering assignments related to the skill. Parents can aid by suggesting associated activities which their children may use as hobbies. Additionally, carefully choosing your words can reduce possible problems sourced by students' restricted vocabularies.

Patience is an essential part of addressing the above mentioned educational tests. You will probably need to check lessons or fix student's improper behaviour many times. Another way of making the repetition more efficient is to convoy verbal instructions with extra cues; for instance, show pictures for repeating spoken directions.

To fight difficulty in completing compound tasks, NICHCY recommends dividing these jobs into smaller steps. This organization also suggests providing instant feedback for helping a child to learn while he or she performs a step properly.

One last advice does not inevitably correspond to $some \, particular \, academic \, barrier \, however \, rather \, attends$ to the educational focus, at least with higher school level. Examine student's skills to choose how to carry on with the transitioning to maturity. For example, do the students having the capabilities which will allow the students to survive on their own? If yes, the later years of school need to concentrate on enhancing the ability which will let them live without help.

Effective Teaching Techniques for People Having Intellectual Disabilities

Individuals having intellectual disabilities advantage from same teaching techniques used for teaching people with the other learning disputes. It includes studying disabilities, autism, and hyperactivity dis-

One such technique is breaking the learning jobs in smaller steps. Every learning job is introduced, with one step with one time. It avoids overwhelming the students. When the student masters one step, then the next step is initiated. That is a step-wise, progressive, and learning approach. This is an attribute of several learning models. Only one difference is size and number of chronological steps.

The second technique is to transform the approach of teaching. Extensive verbal directions and theoretical lectures are useless teaching techniques for most of the audiences. Majority of people are kinesthetic students. It means they study best when doing an assignment "hands-on." It is contrary to thinking about doing it in the abstract. The hands-on tactic is particularly useful for students suffering from Intellectual Disability. They study best while information is real and observed. For instance, there are many ways of teaching the gravity concept. Teachers may talk about gravity theoretically. They can explain the force for the gravitational pull. Secondly, teachers might show how the gravity works through dropping something. Thirdly, teachers may ask the students directly about the gravity by doing an exercise. Students might also be told to jump or drop the pen. Majority of students keep more details from experiencing the gravity firsthand. The concrete gravity experience is much easier to recognize than theoretical explanations.

Third, people having Intellectual Disability do best with learning environments where visual support is

used. It might consist of pictures, charts, and graphs. The visual tools are valuable in helping the students to recognize what actions are projected of them. For example, using the charts of mapping students' development is extremely effective. Charts may also be used as the means of offering positive support for suitable and on-task performance.

A fourth teaching technique is to offer direct and urgent feedback. Individuals having Intellectual Disability need instant feedback. It allows them to create a connection between their activities and the teacher's response. Delay in offering feedback makes that hard to make a connection between the source and $effect. Therefore, the knowledge\ point\ can\ be\ missed.$

While we teach children having intellectual disabilities, we should remember many factors. Initially, we should set goals which are most significant for the children. Learning names of planets cannot be as significant as learning on how the plants grow. Then we should make the materials as well as set the environment in order that it supports a child's learning. In conclusion, we should use a few teaching methods for teaching and motivating the children to learn. Let's explore some efficient teaching methods for students having intellectual disabilities.

Baby Steps: Children suffering from intellectual disabilities should be learnt using baby steps. Each skill, task, or activity should be crashed into smaller baby steps. The children are taught one step at one time. Gradually, they learn to merge the baby steps for learning a better concept. For instance, we won't teach the concept of the red colour within one day, so initially, we will teach sorting of red and then matching of red, after that identifying the red, and then naming the red and lastly generalizing the red. Using that way try to break all skills into smaller baby steps.

Chaining: Chaining is a procedure of breaking the task into smaller steps and teaches them in a chronological way. This is generally used for teaching everyday living skills. For instance, we initially teach a child for holding the pant with both hands, and we teach him to grip it and take it down on his legs. Subsequently, we teach to hold that, bring that down to the legs, as well as put a leg inside. The procedure is named forward chaining. In backward chaining, you teach children last steps first. We complete the activity for the child as well as allow the children to do last steps on their own. After that, we do this movement until the second last step. In that way, a child does some activities and we do less till child can do the entire activity to his own.

Group Learning: Group learning is among the most efficient teaching methods for students having intellectual disabilities. That is when you bring the children together with the group of teaching different skills. Children usually do better while they are within the group. Behavioural difficulties are fewer and children encourage each other. One difficulty of the group learning is you need sufficient hands for helping children learn mutually.

Hands-onLearning: Hands-on learning is the procedure of user actions and on the tasks of teaching skills. All the children particularly children having intellectual impairments study best using this procedure. An example might be to do science experiments and discover science concepts. One more idea is using play dough plus making letter shapes and learn letters. Hands-on learning is an enormous way of learning math.

Play-Based Learning: Play-based learning is while we use play activities for teaching cognitive skills. For instance, if a child is playing with cars, we can just sit there and play too. During our play, we use statements like "Can you give that to me? May I play with a red car?" In that way, we help children to learn skills while they are playing.

Positive Reinforcement: Positive reinforcement is reinforcing the children positively when they learn new skills or practice or do known skills. It is an enormous way of motivating children having intellectual disabilities. Employ reinforcements which are suitable for the children.

These are only a few efficient teaching tactics for students having intellectual disabilities. The finest way to teach is understanding the child, understanding his capabilities and his requirements.

> Vijay Garg Retired Principal Educational **Columnist Malout Punjab**



13TH HEADLINES

Cybercrime is a growing problem, with losses estimated to reach \$6 trillion annually by 2021. In order to combat this threat, law enforcement and security professionals need to be able to collect and analyze digital evidence. This is where digital forensics comes in.

Digital forensics is the process of identifying, preserving, analyzing, and documenting digital evidence. It can be used to investigate a wide range of crimes, including data breaches, identity theft, and fraud.

Digital evidence can be found on a variety of devices, including computers, smartphones, and tablets. It can also be found in the cloud, on social media, and in email.

Digital forensics is a complex and specialized field. It requires a deep understanding of computer science, data storage, and networking. Digital forensics experts also need to be able to testify in court.

The demand for digital forensics experts is growing rapidly. As cybercrime becomes more sophisticated, law enforcement and security professionals will need to rely on digital forensics to investigate and prosecute these crimes.

How Digital Forensics Works

The digital forensics process typically begins with the collection of evidence. This can be done by seizing a device, downloading data from the cloud, or extracting data from a network.

Once the evidence has been collected, it must be preserved. This means making sure that the evidence is not altered or tampered with.

The next step is to analyze the evidence. This can be done manually or with the help of specialized software. The goal of the analysis is to identify and extract relevant

The final step is to document the findings. This includes creating a report that details the evidence that was collected, how it was analyzed, and the findings of the analysis.

The Importance of Digital Forensics

Digital forensics is essential for fighting cybercrime. It can be used to identify and prosecute criminals, recover stolen data, and prevent future attacks.

Digital forensics is also important for civil litigation. It can be used to prove or disprove liability in cases involving data breaches, identity theft, and fraud.

The Challenges of Digital Forensics

Digital forensics is a challenging field. The volume and complexity of digital evidence is constantly increasing. This makes it difficult to collect, preserve, and analyze evidence.

Another challenge is the ever-changing nature of technology. New devices and software are constantly being developed, which can make it difficult for digital forensics experts to keep up.

The Future of Digital Forensics

The future of digital forensics is bright.

Digital Forensics:

The Essential Tool for **Fighting Cybercrime**



The demand for digital forensics experts is expected to grow significantly in the coming years.

This growth is being driven by the increasing sophistication of cybercrime and the growing importance of data. As more and more data is stored and transmitted electronically, it will become even more important to be able to collect, preserve, and analyze digital evidence.

Digital forensics is a vital tool for fighting cybercrime. It is a complex and challenging field, but it is essential for protecting our data and our privacy.

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Digital forensics is a vital tool for fighting cybercrime. It is a complex and challenging field, but it is essential for protecting our data and our privacy.

The field of digital forensics is constantly evolving, as new technologies and methods are developed to collect, preserve, and analyze digital evidence. In recent years, there has been a growing focus on the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in digital forensics.

AI can be used to automate many of the tasks involved in digital forensics, such as identifying and extracting data from devices. AI can also be used to analyze data and identify patterns that might be missed by human analysts.

The use of AI in digital forensics has the potential to revolutionize the field. AI can help to make digital forensics more efficient and effective. It can also help to improve the accuracy of digital forensics investiga-

However, there are also some challenges associated with the use of AI in digital forensics. One challenge is that AI systems can be biased. This means that they may make decisions that are unfair or discriminatory. Another challenge is that AI systems can be hacked. This means that they could be used to manipulate or destroy digital evidence.

Despite these challenges, the use of AI in digital forensics is likely to continue to grow in the future. AI has the potential to make a significant contribution to the fight against cybercrime.

Here are some of the ways that Alis being used in digital forensics:

Identifying and extracting data from devices: AI can be used to identify and extract data from devices, such as computers, smartphones, and tablets. This can be done by analyzing the device's file system, memory, and other storage locations.

Analyzing data: AI can be used to analyze data and identify patterns that might be missed by human analysts. This can be done by looking for correlations between different data points, such as email addresses, IP addresses, and file names.

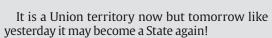
Reconstructing events: AI can be used to reconstruct events that took place on a device. This can be done by analyzing the device's timeline, logs, and other data.

Identifying threats: AI can be used to identify threats, such as malware, viruses, and ransomware. This can be done by analyzing the device's security logs and other data.

The use of AI in digital forensics is still in its early stages, but it has the potential to revolutionize the field. AI can help to make digital forensics more efficient and effective. It can also help to improve the accuracy of digital forensics investigations.

Digital forensics is a complex and challenging field that is essential for fighting cybercrime. It is a field that is constantly evolving, as new technologies and methods are developed to collect, preserve, and analyze digital evidence. The use of AI in digital forensics has the potential to revolutionize the field, but there are also some challenges associated with its use. Despite these challenges, the use of AI in digital forensics is likely to continue to grow in the future

The Author is a Renowned Social **Activist President of Tehreek-e-Nau**jawan & Student Of Cybersecurity, Irfan Attari Kashmiri, Email: askirfanattari@gmail.com



It is a known fact that children move stones with their feet. Men move rocks with their hands. Women move mountains with their hearts! And it is the woman from whom we all are born! Children have to be shaped on three principles! One is customs and traditions and heritage of the family because a family makes a society and thereafter develops the community! We all grow up in the given circumstances! But education is a must to any given child and he/she could be any born but without any future! The future we all should get together to make his/ hers! Health care is a must again for a child! The government has taken several steps to improve the same, facilities created by the present set up of governance and administration is exemplary but still what is required is awareness among the poor!

A Child always grows into his Area of Strength, then he/she calls it his/her identity. If that child seems lost, it's because he/she feels he/she has no 'Strength. He/she would go searching until he/she finds it. Even if he/she finds it at the wrong place. That's why, it is okay to show your child the dream you have for him/

Children are the future of tomorrow of J&K!



her. So it may become where he finds his own. Or else, he/she could find it where you may not like. Every growing child looks to grow into something that he/she can call his/her identity. His/her first love! Dance... Music... Cooking... Any hobbies... Or interest... Any! Uncover that child's identity with him/her and for him/her... Before he/she gets it where you would rather he/she doesn't.' That is the nature of a child and we were all once upon a

It is from home where the standards are set, in school they are keenly observed, in higher classes the polishing of the talent and the potential is groomed, in professional colleges the child once and now a grown up boy/girl is taught how to make the best use of his/her talent and then finally he/she becomes a professional that is class apart! Jammu was slow to take off but with changing times the kids too have changed! They love competition and want to make it! For sure Jammu of tomorrow will be in safer hands!

"This Is A Different India": S Jaishankar's Warning To China

HT News Network

Kampala: Forces who indulge in cross-border terrorism against India for decades now know this is a "different India" which will give them a reply, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar has said, stressing that today the country can meet its national security challenges posed by China and Pakistan.

PUBLICATIONHEADLINES

CODAY

Addressing the Indian community in Uganda on Wednesday, Mr Jaishankar spoke about the transformation of the country into a new India.

Speaking about the challenges India faces on its borders, Mr Jaishankar said: "Today, people see a different India that is willing to stand up and India which will meet its national security challenges whether it is Uri or whether it is Balakot."

He was referring to the 2016 Uri attack by Jaish-e-Mohammed insurgents from Pakistan against an Indian Army brigade headquarters and the 2019 Balakot airstrike conducted by Indian warplanes in Balakot, Pakistan against a terrorist training camp.

"Today, the forces which indulged in cross-border terrorism against India for decades and which India tolerated, they now know this is a different India and this India will give them a reply," he said.

He also spoke about the challenges on the border with China.

"For the last three years, in violation of the agreements, the Chinese have brought large forces," he said.



Today the Indian military is deployed at very great heights and in

very tough conditions, he said. This situation is different from the past as Indian soldiers have now the full backing, they have the right equipment and the infrastructure,"

He admitted that more work has to be done to develop the infrastructure on the border with China as it has been neglected in the past.

"This is a different India which will stand up for its interests and the world will recognise that," he said.

Today, he said India's policies are not impacted by any outside pressure. "It is a more independent India," he

Today, India cannot be put under pressure by countries that will "tell us where we should buy our oil and where we should not buy our oil."

"This an India which will do what is in the interest of its citizens, its consumers," he said.

India has been snapping Russian oil available at a discount after the West sanctioned Moscow over its invasion of Ukraine. India continues to buy Russian oil in large quantities. Russia continued to be the single largest supplier of crude oil, which is converted into petrol and diesel at refineries, for a sixth straight month by supplying more than one-third of all oil India imported, according to energy cargo tracker Vortexa. India has been snapping Russian oil available at a discount after the West sanctioned Moscow over its invasion of Ukraine. India continues to buy Russian oil in large quantities. Russia continued to be the single largest supplier of crude oil, which is converted into petrol and diesel at refineries.

"Nitish Formula" Proposed For 2024 In New Opposition Unity Push: Sources

HT News Network

New Delhi: After Sharad Pawar dropped a political bombshell on the opposition in his interview to NDTV, exposing a divide on the demand for a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) probe into the Adani-Hindenburg row, opposition parties appear to be picking up the pieces of what is being seen as one more attempt at forging opposition unity.

The meeting between Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and Mallikarjun Kharge, and Nitish Kumar and Tejashwi Yadav yesterday, is seen to be a leap in

that direction. In the meeting, it was decided that the outreach to various opposition players would follow the divide and conquer strategy, NDTV has learned. While the Congress will reach out to friendly and like-minded parties like Uddhav Thackeray's faction of Shiv Sena, and Sharad Pawar's Nationalist Congress Party (NCP), and the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha, Nitish Kumar has taken up the responsibility of doing the real heavy lift-

Sources say that Nitish



Kumar has agreed to speak to parties who remain equidistant from the BIP and the Congress. This includes reaching out to Arvind Kejriwal's Aam Aadmi Party

(AAP). Nitish Kumar didn't waste time - he met with Arvind Kejriwal last night. "I am completely with him. It is extremely necessary that the entire opposition and the country come together and change the government at the Centre," Mr Kejriwal said after the meeting.

The Bihar Chief Minister also has the task of reaching out to K Chandrashekar Rao of the Bharat Rashtra Samithi and Mamata Banerjee of the Trinamool Congress. Both these parties

have refused to do business with the Congress, so it will be interesting to see whether Nitish Kumar's outreach

will bring a turnaround. Nitish Kumar's Janata Dal United (JDU) has proposed what they call the "Nitish formula" of opposition unity, sources say.

"The only way to win against Narendra Modi is to follow a one against one policy in 2024, which means one seat, one candidate from the opposition against the BIP candidate," said senior Janata Dal United leader KC Tyagi.

Mr Tyagi told NDTV this is not a new formula, and this strategy has delivered results in 1977 and 1989. However, in both these cases, the Congress party returned to power within two years.

It will also be interesting to see how many players in the opposition ranks are willing to follow the one seat, one candidate formu-

"We will be sitting and discussing various formulas and are willing to have various strategies in the run-up to 2024. The idea is for all like-minded opposition parties to come together on a common meeting ground," said Nasir Hussain, a Congress MP who was present at the meeting between Nitish Kumar and Mallikarjun Kharge.

As a sub-strategy, Nitish Kumar's deputy Tejashwi Yadav has been given the responsibility of talking to Samajwadi Party leader Akhilesh Yadav, who is his family friend and relative.

Mr Pawar said he was meant to be part of the Congress-Nitish Kumar meeting but had work. "I will go to Delhi and meet them," the NCP leader told reporters.

Left leaders said the idea was for "secular, democratic forces" to come together and maximise the anti-BJP vote.

AIIMS Guwahati would boost Assam's health infrastructure: PM Modi"

■ HT News Network

 $New\,Delhi, Apr\,13\,(UNI)\,Prime\,Minister\,Narendra\,Modi$ on Thursday said the AIIMS in Guwahati will boost Assam's health infrastructure and it will also help the entire Northeast.

The PM during his visit to Assam on Friday will dedicate AIIMS Guwahati and three other Medical colleges to the nation, as per a statement issued by the Prime Minister's Office.

In response to a tweet by Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya apprising that the PM will inaugurate AIIMS Guwahati on Friday, PM Modi wrote, "AIIMS in Guwahati will boost Assam's health infrastructure and also help the entire Northeast.'

He also said it will make quality healthcare even more

"Ayushman Northeast! PM Narendra Modi Ji to dedicate to the nation AIIMS Guwahati, the first AIIMS of Northeast, on April 14," Mandaviya tweeted.

The operationalisation of AIIMS Guwahati will mark a momentous occasion for the state of Assam and the entire North-East region, the PMO said.

PM Modi to distribute 71,000 appointment letters to new recruits

HT News Network

New Delhi, April 13 (UNI) Prime Minister Narendra Modi will distribute about 71,000 appointment letters to newly inducted recruits under Rozgar Mela via video conferencing on Thursday. The Prime Minister will also address these appointees on the occasion. The Government has decided to provide about 10 lakh jobs in the Central Government within a year. For this purpose, the first PM Rozgar Mela was introduced on October 22, 2022, where 75,000 government jobs were made. Till date 2,18,000 jobs have been provided in various central government departments through several Rozgar Melas."The Rozgar Mela is a step towards fulfilment of the commitment of the Prime Minister to accord highest priority to employment generation" said the official statement.It said, the Rozgar Mela is expected to act as a catalyst in further employment generation and provide meaningful opportunities to the youth for their empowerment and participation in national development.

Out of control truck kills seven pilgrims, injures 10

HT News Network

Hoshiarpur, Apr 13 (UNI) Seven pilgrims died on the spot and 10 were injured when all of them were crushed under the wheels of an out-of-control truck near Charan Chhoe Ganga Sri Guru Ravidas Maharaj, Sri Khuralgarh Sahib here in the wee hours of the morning.DSP Daljit Singh Khakh said that the deceased are mostly residents of Mastan Khera in Muzaffarnagar district of Uttar Pradesh. All the injured persons were admitted in Civil Hospital from where five of them had been referredto PGIMER, Chandigarh under critical condition. The area is sub mountainous and on a slope the truck driver lost control over his vehicle and crushed 17 pedestrians out of which seven died. It is suspected that the brakes of the truck had failed.

K'taka polls: BJP denies ticket to 7 sitting MLAs including tainted Virupakshappa

HT News Network

New Delhi, Apr 13 (UNI) BJP has dropped seven sitting MLAs including its tainted legislator Madal Virupashappa in the second list ahead of the May 10 assembly election in Karnataka.

This is a strategy to field fresh faces. In the first list, the BJP fielded 52 new faces out of the 189 names of candidates announced on April 11.

The second list of 23 candidates was announced late on Wednesday night.

The party has denied ticket to Virupakshappa from the Channagiri assembly constituency, who has been arrested in a bribery case. Other sitting MLAs who were denied tickets are - Nehru Olekar (Haveri), N Lingana (Mayakonda), and Sukumar Shetty (Byndoor AC), MP Kumaraswamy (Mudigere AC), CM Nimbannavar (Kalaghatagi AC), SA Ravindranath (Davangere North AC). As per media reports, the party has denied tickets to V Somanna's son Arun and BS Yediyurappa's political secretary Santosh, to contest from Gubbi and Arsikere constituencies, respectively.

The BJP has not yet announced candidates for Hubballi-Dharwad Central and Shivamogga, the constituencies that are repre-



sented by Jagadish Shettar and KS Esh-

warappa, respectively. Shettar met BIP President IP Nadda in New Delhi, and staked his claim to contest from his current constituency on Wednesday.Nagaraja Chabbi, a Congress leader who recently joined BJP, has been fielded from Kalghatgi.Gavi Sidappa has been given ticket to contest from Haveri constituency, while Shiv Kumar has been fielded from Channagiri seat.

Gururaj Gantihole has been given ticket for Byndoor seat, while Deepak Doddaiah has been chosen for Mudigere. The party also announced two women candidates in the second list. They are: Lalitha Anapur and Ashwini Sampangi who have been fielded from Gurmitkal and Kolar Gold Field, respectively.

Arvind Kejriwal "Natwarlal Of Politics": BJP Slams "U-Turn On Corruption"

HT News Network

New Delhi: The BJP today called Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal "Natwarlal of politics" and said he has given the biggest example of "political conversion" by deciding to ally with the coalition of corrupts.

Addressing a press conference, BJP national spokesperson Shehzad Poonawala said he can understand the "political helplessness" of Bihar Chief Nitish Kumar to forge an alliance with the Congress and the RJD, but he failed to understand why Arvind Kejriwal, a "political Pinocchio", decided to make a U-turn on corruption.On Wednesday, Mr Kejriwal met Nitish Kumar and RJD's Tejashwi Yadav at his residence in New Delhi.

The meeting came hours after the Bihar leaders met Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge and Rahul Gandhi as part of Nitish Kumar's initiative to forge an alliance of opposition parties ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha polls."We understand Nitish ji's political helplessness. But what is the political compulsion and helplessness of Arvind Kejriwal, who was born to fight against corruption, that he is hugging Lalu Prasad Yadav, his family, Rahul Gandhi,



and forging an alliance with them?" BJP spokesperson Shehzad Poonawala asked.

"Arvind Kejriwal, who once called Lalu Yadav an 'icon of corruption', is hugging him and his son Tejashwi Yadav, and joining the 'BBC' or 'Bhrastachar Bachao Coalition' (save corruption coalition)," he charged. Arvind Kejriwal had lauded Nitish Kumar for his initiative and assured his Aam Aadmi Party's "complete support" to him. "Natwarlal of Indian politics is standing with those whom he used to call corrupt. Such an example of political conversion has never been seen so far," the BIP spokesperson claimed, adding, "Arvind Kejriwal is Natwarlal of politics.

Gangster's Son Killed In UP Encounter, 42 Rounds Fired, He Was In Disguise

HT News Network

Dreaded gangster Atiq Ahmed's son Asad, wanted in the Umesh Pal murder case, was gunned down by Uttar Pradesh police in an encounter in Jhansi today. His coaccused Ghulam was also shot dead.

Both Asad and Ghulam had a reward of 5 lakh on their heads. Asad Ahmed had been captured by a CCTV camera during the attack on Pal and was on the run since.

Ghulam opened fire at a team of Uttar Pradesh Special Task Force around noon today and the two were killed in retaliatory action, police said. Sophisticated weapons, new cellphones and SIM cards have been recovered from them, they added. According to police sources, Asad Ahmed had fled to Lucknow after the killing of Umesh Pal. He later moved to Kanpur and then Meerut before reaching Delhi, it is learnt. He then decided to flee to Madhya Pradesh. He reached Jhansi and was on his way to the state border on a bike when police intercepted him. Asad was reportedly in disguise. Police sources said they had an informer in Atiq Ahmed's gang who told them about Asad's whereabouts. Sharing details about the encounter, police said a team of 12 led by two DSP-rank officers carried out the operation. A total of 42 rounds were fired during the encounter at Babina road in Jhansi. The encounter killings took place on a day Atiq Ahmed was produced in court in the same murder case and sent to judicial custody for 14 days. Umesh Pal, a lawyer, was a witness in the 2005 murder of BSP MLA Raju Pal. On February 24, he was shot dead in a daylight attack outside his home in Prayagraj. The security personnel guarding him were also killed. Shocking visuals of the attack prompted questions on Uttar Pradesh's law and order situation and the government came under strong criticism by the Opposition.

"Eknath Shinde Cried At Matoshree": Aaditya **Thackeray's Big Claim**

■ HT News Network

Mumbai: Uddhav Thackeray's son and former Maharashtra Minister Aaditya Thackeray claimed that Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, before joining hands with Bharatiya Janata Party last year, "cried" at Matoshree fearing being jailed by the investigative agencies "if he did not ally with BJP".It is pertinent to mention that Eknath Shinde led a rebellion with over 40 MLAs in June last year which ultimately toppled the Uddhav Thackeray-led Maha Vikas Aghadi government in Maharashtra.

Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sanjay Raut further certified Aaditya Thackeray's claims, saying that "it is correct" and

that Mr Shinde had told him the same thing. "Eknath Shinde cried after coming to Matoshree and said - If he does not go with BJP, he will be put in jail," Mr

Thackeray had claimed on April 11. Mr Raut also claimed that fear of Eknath Shinde being jailed was "clearly visible" in his "mind and heart".

'This is 100 per cent correct! Eknath Shinde had also said this after coming to me. I tried to make him (Shinde) understand.. But the fear of jail was clearly visible in his mind and heart. Aaditya is right," Mr Raut tweeted.

Speaking to the reporters, the Uddhav Thackeray faction leader said that Eknath Shinde had told him that he did not want to go to jail and asked him to break the alliance with the Congress and NCP."What Aaditya Thackeray is saying is completely true, the present Chief Minister (Eknath Shinde) also said the same after coming to my house that I do not want to go to jail, you break this alliance. ... There is a pressure system going on all over the country but we need not fear. He (CM Eknath Shinde) said no, I am afraid that I will be put in jail, he was afraid of going to jail," Mr Raut claimed.

High Court Orders Stay On Union Minister's Arrest In Corruption Case

■ HT News Network

Jodhpur: The Rajasthan High Court today granted interim relief to Union minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat in the Sanjivani Credit Cooperative Society case and ordered a stay on his arrest.

The minister had filed a criminal miscellaneous petition seeking relief in the matter although he is not mentioned as an accused in the FIR registered in connection with the alleged scam of more than 900 crore. The Rajasthan Special Operations Group is investigating the case.

A bench of Justice Kuldeep Mathur heard the petition and granted the stay on arrest. The court then listed the matter for further hearing after three weeks.

Mr Shekhawat had moved a petition on March 24 for quashing the FIR in the case and transferring the probe to the CBI. His counsel Dhirendra Singh Daspan said they sought the transfer of the investigation to the CBI on the grounds that the state has no jurisdiction in the matter.

The Union minister's move came following Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot's continuous attack, accusing Mr Shekhawat and his family of being involved in misappropriation of depositors' money in the name of huge return on their deposits.

Mr Shekhawat has also filed a criminal defamation suit in a Delhi court against Mr Gehlot, saying the Congress leader made false allegations that caused an irreparable damage to his reputation. Meanwhile, Gehlot Mr on Thursday demanded that Prime Minister Narendra Modi should sack Mr Shekhawat as Union minister for his alleged involvement in the Sanjivani Credit Cooperative Society case."He has no moral right to remain a Union minister. The prime minister should sack such a minister,' the Chief Minister told reporters in Jaipur.



China Revises Wartime Military Recruitment Rules Amid Tensions Over Taiwan

HT News Network

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Beijing: China has released a new set of revised rules for military recruitment in wartime, including giving priority to the veterans, drafting high-calibre soldiers and optimising conscription procedures, which an analyst described as combat readiness for a war over Taiwan.

A set of revised rules regarding military recruitment has been released by the State Council and the Central Military Commission (CMC) - the high command of the Chinese military headed by President Xi Jinping - aiming to provide institutional guarantees for consolidating national defence and building strong armed forces, state-run Xinhua news agency reported on Wednesday.

The new regulation, with 74 articles in 11 chapters, focuses on recruiting more high-calibre soldiers, standardising and optimis $ing\,conscription\,procedures, and\\$ improving the system's efficiency, it said in a brief report.

The new rules will come into effect next month.

The regulations said recruitment should "focus on preparing for war" and increase efficiency by calling up "high calibre" recruits, the Hong Kong-based



South China Morning Post newspaper reported.

For the first time, a separate chapter on wartime recruitment has been included in the regulations, which state that ex-servicemen would be prioritised and expected to join their original units or similar positions.

The new rules were framed as Beijing is facing geopolitical tensions on several fronts, including in the South China Sea, especially in the Taiwan Strait, according to the report. The People's Liberation Army (PLA) broke new ground

in its latest drill around Taiwan by testing its capacity to blockade the self-ruled island. The threeday exercises which ended on Monday followed Taiwanese President Tsai Ing-wen's meeting with US House Speaker Kevin McCarthy.ChinaviewsTaiwanas a breakaway province. Beijing has not ruled out the possible use of

island with the mainland. China views any official exchanges between foreign governments and Taiwan as an infringement on Beijing's claims

force to reunify the self-ruled

of sovereignty over the island. Though the exercises ended, the PLA maintained a substantial presence in the Taiwan Strait, keeping Taipei on tenterhooks. During a visit to the PLA's Southern Theatre Command on Wednesday, President Xi stressed the importance of accelerating the transformation into a modern fighting force through "real combat-oriented exercises" and innovative warfare concepts.

He asked the military to resolutely defend China's sovereignty and maritime rights and interests,

and strive to maintain the overall stability of the neighbouring regions amid rising tensions over Taiwan and the South China Sea.

China claims nearly all of the disputed South China Sea, though Taiwan, the Philippines, Brunei, Malaysia and Vietnam all claim parts of it. Beijing has built artificial islands and military installations in the South China Sea.

Chinese and Indian troops are also locked in a nearly three-year confrontation in certain friction points in eastern Ladakh even as the two sides completed disengagement of troops from several areas following extensive diplomatic and military talks.

India has been maintaining that its ties with China cannot be normal unless there is peace in the border areas. Explaining the addition of the "wartime recruitment" chapter to the military regulations, a CMC official said, "in order to ensure the normal replacement of troops and the supplementary needs of soldiers in wartime, the regulations refer to the common practices of various countries ... and set up a special chapter to regulate the issue of wartime recruitment." Citizens who receive a recruitment notice during wartime must go to the designated place on time to enlist or face.

Chinese Cops' Move To Ensure Uyghurs Don't Fast During Ramzan: Report

■ HT News Network

hinese police have been using spies to ensure that Uyghur Muslims do not fast during the holy month of Ramzan.

The spies, which Chinese officials call "ears", are drawn from ordinary citizens, police and members of neighbourhood committees, Radio Free Asia reported citing a police officer from an area near Turpan, or Tulufan in Chinese, in eastern Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region.

Speaking to Radio Free Asia, the police officer said, "We have many secret agents."

China started banning Muslims in Xinjiang from fasting during Ramzan in 2017 when authorities started arbitrarily detaining Uyghurs in "re-education" camps amid efforts to diminish Uyghur culture, language and religion, as per the news report.

The restriction announced by Chinese authorities was partially relaxed in 2021 and 2022, permitting people above the age of 65 years to fast and police even reduced the number of home searches and street patrol activities. This year, the Chinese government has banned everyone from fasting irrespective of age, gender or profession, Radio Free Asia reported citing a political official at Turpan City Police Station.

During the first week of Ramzan, Chinese authorities summoned 56 Uyghur residents and former detainees to question them about their activities and said that 54 of them violated the law by fasting, Radio Free Asia reported citing a policeman from Turpan City Bazaar Police Station.

As per the news report, neither he nor another police officer at the police station would discuss what happened to those who were determined to have violated the law. Police stations in Turpan have engaged two or three spies from each village to watch people previously questioned and detained for fasting during Ramzan and those released from prison, Radio Free Asia reported citing officials.

North Korea Likely Fired "New Type" Of Ballistic **Missile: Seoul**

HT News Network

orth Korea likely fired a "new type" of ballistic missile Thursday that may have used advanced solid fuel, Seoul's military said, representing a potential technical breakthrough for Pyongyang's banned weapons programs."North Korea appears to have fired a new type of ballistic missile, possibly using solid fuel," Seoul's Joint Chiefs of Staff told AFP.All of Pyongyang's known intercontinental ballistic missiles are liquid-fuelled, and solid-fuel ICBMs that can be launched from land or submarines have long been on top of leader Kim Jong Un's wish list. Such missiles are easier to store and transport, more stable and quicker to prepare for launch, and thus harder to detect and destroy pre-emptively. At a military parade in Pyongyang in February, North Korea showed off a record number of nuclear and intercontinental ballistic missiles, including what analysts said was possibly a new solid-fuelled ICBM. Seoul's military on Thursday said it had detected one "medium range or longer" ballistic missile launched on a lofted trajectory -- up not out -- from the Pyongyang area at 0723 (1023 GMT), which flew 1,000 km (621 miles).

Japan, which briefly issued a seek shelter warning to residents of the northern Hokkaido region, said the missile had not fallen within the country's territory and posed no threat to residents.

MMA Fighter Arrested In US For Allegedly Killing Air **Force Personnel**

■ HT News Network

mixed martial arts (MMA) fighter has been arrested in the US for allegedly killing a US airman with a single punch during a bar fight in Florida on Sunday, as per a report in Global News. Twenty-three year old Ross Johnson has been charged with manslaughter, according to a statement from the Panama City beach Police. The police identified Johnson as an amateur MMA fighter. The Air Force personnel who died has been identified as Dayvon Larry, who was 31, according to the outlet. The police said the fight took place inside and outside the Coyote Ugly Saloon in Panama City Beach. They added that Larry was not a participant but may have known someone involved in the fight, according to the outlet. Global News quoted the police a further saying that Johnson punched Larry once in the face in the parking lot. The security team of the bar broke up the fight and even tried to administer CPR to the airman but couldn't save him.

Harry, but no Meghan at Charles III's coronation

HT News Network

rince Harry will attend the coronation in London of his father King Charles III but without his wife Meghan, Buckingham Palace said on Wednesday. The announcement follows weeks of uncertainty over the presence of Harry and Meghan, who have launched a barrage of criticism of the British royal family since announcing they were quitting royal duties in early 2020. Buckingham Palace is pleased to confirm that the Duke of Sussex will attend the coronation service at Westminster Abbey on 6th May," a palace statement said, using Harry's official title."The Duchess of Sussex will remain in California with Prince Archie and Princess Lilibet." The day of the coronation, which formally sees Charles crowned king, falls on Archie's fourth birthday.

Zelensky blasts Russia over beheading video

■ HT News Network

KYIV: Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky on Wednesday denounced Russian "beasts" after a video appeared to show the beheading of a Ukrainian prisoner, prompting international outrage.

The emergence of the disturbing footage, which was unable to independently verify, sparked fury in Ukraine, with Kyiv saying Russia is "worse than ISIS" — a reference to the militant Islamic State group. The European Union pledged to hold war criminals to account, while a UN mission in Ukraine said it was "appalled".

The UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine also pointed to another video that is spreading online, saying it "shows mutilated bodies of apparent Ukrainian POWs". It was not clear when or where the video was filmed. Ukrainian authorities said they were trying to identify the victim.

Following the emergence of a new video, Zelensky said in an address posted to social media that "the world must see" what he

called an "execution of a Ukrainian captive. Moscow says US leaks may be intended to 'deceive' Russia

"There is something that no one in the world can ignore: how easily these beasts kill," the grim-faced Ukrainian leader said. "We won't forget anything, nor will we forgive murderers," he added.

Zelensky urged world leaders to act and help Ukraine defeat Russia as Kyiv forces prepare a counter-offensive after a monthslong stalemate on the battlefield.



The video, which lasts around one minute 40 seconds, shows a masked man in camouflage decapitating another man in

After the screams stop, other voices are heard encouraging the attacker in Russian. After the man is decapitated, a voice is heard saying that the head should be sent 'to the commander". The victim's vest bearing the Ukrainian trident and a skull can also be seen in the footage.

Intended to 'deceive' The leak of a trove of highly sensitive documents online could be a move by the US to "deceive" Russia, its deputy foreign minister said on Wednesday.

"It's probably interesting for someone to look at these documents, if they really are documents or they could be a fake or it could be an intentional leak," Sergei Ryabkov told Russian news agencies.

"Since the US is a party to the (Ukraine) conflict and is essentially waging a hybrid war against us, it is possible that such techniques are being used to deceive their opponent, the Russian Federation," he said.

UN says forced into 'appalling choice' by Taliban ban on women

HT News Network

KABUL: The United Nations is being forced to make an "appalling choice" over whether to continue operations in Afghanistan while the Taliban government bans women from working for the organisation, the world body said on Tuesday.

Taliban authorities have imposed a slew of restrictions on Afghan women since seizing power in 2021, including banning them from higher education and many government jobs.

In December, they banned Afghan women from working for domestic and foreign non-governmental organisations, and on April 4 extended that to UN offices across the country.

In a statement on Tuesday, the UN mission in Afghanistan said the ban was "unlawful under international law, including the UN Charter, and for that reason the United Nations cannot comply".

"Through this ban, the Taliban de facto authorities seek to force the United Nations into having to make an appalling choice between staying and delivering in support of the Afghan people and standing by the norms and principles we are duty-bound to uphold," it said. The increasing curbs are reminiscent of the Taliban's first government between 1996 and 2001, when the UN said they were responsible for repeated human rights violations - particularly against girls and women.

UN mission head Roza Otunbayeva has initiated an "operational review" to decide next steps, the statement said.



"It should be clear that any negative consequences of this crisis for the Afghan people will be the responsibility of the de facto authorities," it said. The world body employs around 400 Afghan women in the

UN humanitarian coordinator in Afghanistan Ramiz Alakbarov said soon after the ban that the decree violated the world body's charter.

"It is absolutely clear that no authority can give instructions to the United Nations... on who should be employed," he said. "We are not going to make an exception."

Since the ban was announced, the UN has ordered all its Afghan staff, men and women, not to report to the offices until further notice.

The ban triggered international outrage, with the Taliban authorities coming under severe criticism. They have so far not issued any clarification or reason for the UN ban.

Local employees make up the bulk of the 600 women working for the UN in the country. In total, there are about 3,300 Afghans in the country's 3,900-strong UN workforce

Search for alien life extends to Jupiter's icy moons

■ HT News Network

KOUROU (French Guiana): Could vast, long-hidden oceans be teeming with alien life in our very own Solar System? A new chapter in humanity's search for extra-terrestrial life opens on Thursday as Europe's JUICE spacecraft blasts off on a mission to investigate the icy moons of Jupiter.

First discovered by Italian astronomer Galileo Galilei more than 400 years ago, these ice-covered moons are so far from the Sun that they were long dismissed as possible candidates to host life in our backyard.

Until recently, the Solar System's habitable zone was thought to "end at Mars", French astrophysicist Athe-



na Coustenis, one of the scientific leads of the European Space Agency (ESA)'s JUICE mission, said. But Nasa's Galileo probe to Jupiter in 1995 and the more recent Cassini spacecraft's trip to Saturn caused scientists to broaden their horizons.The gas giant planets themselves were correctly ruled out, but their icy

moons — particularly Jupi-

ter's Europa and Ganymede,

and Saturn's Enceladus and Titan — offered fresh hope of nearby life. Under their icy surfaces are thought to be huge oceans of liquid water – a crucial ingredient for life as we know it.

Nicolas Altobelli, a JUICE project scientist at ESA, said it would be "the first time that we explore habitats beyond the frost line" between Mars and Jupiter. Beyond that line, tem-

peratures plummet and "liquid water can no longer exist on the surface", Altobelli said earlier this year. 'Gigantic' oceanThe Jupi-

ter Icy Moons Explorer (JUICE) mission launches from Europe's spaceport in Kourou, French Guiana on an eight-year odyssey through space. By July 2031 it will have entered Jupiter's orbit, from which it will probe Ganymede, Europa and fellow icy moon Callisto.Then, in 2034, JUICE will enter the orbit of Ganymede, the first time a spacecraft has done so around a moon other than our own. As well as being the largest moon in the Solar System, Ganymede is also the only one that has its own magnetic field, which protects it from dangerous.

PTI on a mission to win over Biden administration

HT News Network

WASHINGTON: Former prime minister Imran Khan has spoken to four US lawmakers in less than a month, urging them to support his demand for free and fair elections in Pakistan, according to the PTI's US chapter.

All four legislators — Ted Lieu, Eric Swalwell, Brad Sherman, and Mike Levin — are Democrats, which indicates PTI's interest in mending its ties with the current Democratic administration. Adviser to the PTI Chairman for Overseas Affairs Atif Khan told Dawn that the talks focused on "the need to hold only free and fair elections can stabilise Pakistan, as only elections can stabilise the country."

AtifKhan said that the party was using "all three channels, the media, Congress and the administration, to convey its message: stop human rights violations in Pakistan, support rule of law and democratic values, and support the demand for elections". Imran gets in touch with four US legislators to seek support for fair pollsAt a recent PTI rally outside the White House, PTI leaders also urged the Biden administration not to deal with an extremely unpopular government, which has no moral justification for continuing to rule Pakistan".

The campaign also shows PTI's eagerness to persuade the Biden administration to forget the bitterness of the recent past. After their ouster in April 2022, Imran Khan and his party built their campaign on an anti-American platform,

accusing Washington of conspiring to topple his government. 'Mission to win over Americans'PTI officials in the US.



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DDC Kupwara chairs DLRC/DCC meeting at Kupwara

Asks officers to improve performance in agriculture and allied sectors

HT News Network

KUPWARA, APRIL 13: The District Development Commissioner (DDC), Kupwara, Dr. Doifode Sagar Dattatray today chaired the meeting of District Level Review Committee (DLRC)/District Consultative Committee (DCC) organised by District Lead Bank Office Kupwara, here.

Addressing the meeting, the DDC who is also Chairman of District Level Review Committee, advised all the banks and the sponsoring agencies

to work with greater cooperation, coordination and cohesion to achieve the goals and targets of development and progress besides generation of employment for unemployed youth of the district. He directed them to reflect and register every improvement and performance on the finan-He also directed cial indicators. all departments and banks to conduct awareness programmes at village/ block levels to generate proper awareness about the schemes among the people. He said employment genera-

tion for youth is the top most priority



of the Government and urged upon the sponsoring agencies and banks to work with added dedication for the

betterment of youth. Deputy Commisioner asked the concerned officers of agriculture and institutions to improve the indicators of agriculture and allied sectors and prioritise the saturation of the financial inclusion schemes of agriculture and allied sectors.

Deputy Commissioner Kupwara emphasised upon the concerned officers to reflect the improvement of indicators and achievements in proper time so that Aspirational District Programme dashboard is timely updated.

DC asked the heads of banking institutions and chief agriculture officer

allied sectors and heads of banking Kupwara to officers of allied sectors to saturate the KCC coverage and pay special attention on double cropping, animal husbandry and Fishries.

> DC directed for the constitution of committee comprising of Lead Bank Manager, Cluster head of Bank and Chief Agriculture officer to submit a detailed report regarding the steps to be taken for improvment in agriculture schemes and inclusion of financial schemes within one month and make an action plan suggesting how can agriculture and allied sectors are improved.

DDC Pulwama chairs DLRC meeting; reviews performance of Banks

HT News Network

PULWAMA, APRIL 13: The District Development Commissioner(DDC)Pulwama, Baseer-Ul-Haq Choudhary today convened the District Level Review Committee (DLRC) meeting of the district, here.

During the meeting, detailed discussions were held on CD ratios of the banks, identification of beneficiaries, flow of credit, assistance under Government sponsored schemes, performances of banks under District Credit Plan (DCP), achievements made under the above said Quarter, monitoring initiatives and Credit Plus activities.

It was given out that under Agriculture, Education and Housing Sectors, banks have disbursed an amount of Rs 650.33 crore, 3.69 crores and 84.12 crores respectively. Under medium, small and



micro enterprises, Rs. 226.43 crores have been disbursed against the annual target of 239.38 crores. An amount of 616.29 crores of loan has been sanctioned to

weaker sections. Regarding the Year-wise achievements of targets under priority & non-priority sectors, an amount of 1556.75 crores have

been disbursed by Q3 (FY2022-

The DDC impressed upon the bankers to put in added efforts to increase the CD ratio by focusing on potential areas and stressed on better coordination between banks and government departments for bringing improvement in CD ratio.

anced lending in all key sectors to promote equitable growth and also emphasized upon the heads of the financial institutions to spread awareness with regard to the welfare schemes sponsored by them among masses so that people can avail benefit for their socio-economic development.

The DDC stressed for a self reliant and sustainable Agriculture and Horticulture sector. He hailed the role of agriculture and horticulture sectors in creating selfreliant and sustainable employment in the district.

He emphasized on the priority sector lending with a special focus on education, women development and agriculture allied sectors and directed concerned officials to organize the financial literacy camps in every block of the district and stressed upon the bankers and concerned officers to adopt public friendly approach

He directed for ensuring bal- and work in coordination so that good results are achieved at the grass roots level.

The DDC praised the credit planning exercise of NABARD for preparing Potential Linked Credit Plans (PLPs) for the district.

Furthermore, in this meeting $JKBRSETI\,was\,in structed\,to\,diver$ sify the courses for productive results and also provide a platform for training Khidmat centers and CSCs.

The meeting was attended by ADDC Pulwama, Dr Sheikh Abdul Aziz, ADC Pulwama, Awantipora & Tral, ACD Pulwama, ACR Pulwama, Chief Planning Officer Pulwama, ACP Pulwama, Lead District Manager, Cluster Head JK Bank, NABARD, representatives of various banks, DIC, KVIB, KVIC, Deptt of Agriculture, District Coordinators, all Tehsildars, BDOs, other Heads of various Government Departments and sponsor-

43 Persons, Attending Funeral, **Injured As House Collapses in Poonch Village**

M S Nazki

Poonch, Apr 13 At least forty three persons, mostly women, were injured after a house they were attending a funeral at, collapsed in a village in Poonch district, this afternoon, officials said.

They told HT that the women had assembled at house of one Zakir Hussain Shah in Khanetar village near High School in Poonch district to mourn death of a woman. "In the course of time as more people poured in, the roof collapsed, leading to injuries to at least forty three women", they said.

"All the injured were taken to nearby hospital for immediate treatment", they further said.

SHO Poonch Ranjit Rao also confirmed to HT about the incident. "All the injured persons are under treatment at a hospital", the police officer said.

INDIAN ARMY INAUGURATES MODEL VILLAGE TUKASN IN REASI DISTRICT

M S Nazki



Reasi: On the night 03 Jul 2023, bravehearts from village Tuksan in Reasi District displaying raw courage overpowered two heavily armed Lashkar-e-Toiba terrorists. To reward their courage, determination and sense of patriotism, the Indian Army at Mahore took up a project of making Tuksan as model village, dedicated to the brave villagers and to address their concerns. The project is conducted and implemented under operation Sadhbhavana with an ultimate aim of expressing gratitude for their nationhood displayed towards elimination of terrorism from the region and reemphasizing the Army's commitment of continued support for overall development.

Under this project, Indian Army carried out infrastructure development in village Tuksan to not only develop it as a model village in Reasi district but also to instill sense of belongingness among the populace. The project was conceived after discussion with district administration, the local population and village appointments to assess their need. The project aimed at addressing critical concerns of villagers to include water storage problem, lack of education infrastructure, security and lack of proper medical necessities. Accordingly, the project was executed on a vast canvas by installation of solar street lights, enhancing education infrastructure at school, installation of syntax tank to ensure water sustenance, installation of geysers for hot water during winters and provision of medical equipments to enhance the capability of PHC Tuksan.

G&M department Kupwara along with Handwara police disconnected all the exit points of illegal Mining.

DR AB QAYOOM



Kupwara is leaving no stone unturned to safeguard environment and resources for the greater good of our planet.Back to back crackdown's against illegal extractor of sand .Field officer, Langate Geology & Mining Department Kupwara and his team along JK-Police Handwara is working very hard to get rid of the illegal sand extraction. In this regard the Department of geology & mining along with SHO Handwara disconnected all the exit points of connecting roads to Forest area of Narvi Check area of village Maratgam in Handwara sub District. Locals and people from adjacent areas hailed the sincere efforts G & M Department and Handwara police especially the honest and loyal efforts of SP.HANDWARA.

Such steps are the need of the hour, senior citizens congratulated the whole team of Geology and Mining Department Kupwara for their successful operation. Meanwhile area official G&M said, this message is loud and clear to all the sand mafia brokers in the area to refrain from illegal mafia activities otherwise law will take its own actions and no one will be spared.

DC Kupwara chairs NCORD meeting **Emphasizes to upscale Therapeutic Management, Proper Counseling of drug addicts**

HT News Network

KUPWARA, APRIL 13: To review the progress made vis-à-vis curbing drug abuse in Kupwara district. a meeting of District Level Committee of Narco Coordination(NCORD)was held today under the chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Dr.Doifode Sagar Dattatray at meeting hall of DC Office Complex, here.

At the outset, the DC reviewed various issues related to menace of drug addiction, its control and rehabilitation and areas of concern, its hot spots besides, measures undertaken to break the chain of drug peddling in the district to save youth from the ill effects of the drugs abuse.

The DC directed the concerned to devise a comprehensive plan to reach-out to the drug affected persons for their smooth rehabilitation and recovery.

The meeting was informed by the Chief Medical Officer Kupwara that



243 new drug addict cases ronment. have been identified. With this the total number of drug addicts "identified" have reached to 443 in the district. It was informed that 119 counseling sessions of drug De-addiction were conducted in the district.

Meeting was also informed that drug addicts are properly classified on the basis of their severity.

The DC emphasised upon the concerned to upscale the therapeutic management and proper counseling of the drug addicts which can help the addicts to come out of the menace.

He asked the concerned officers to conduct interaction with drug addicts in a friendly and cordial envi-

The DC asked the Chief Education Officer Kupwara and Principals of degree colleges and higher secondary institutions to identify the drug addict suspects. organise awareness camps and make a schedule of awareness camps, seminars in educational institutions for sensitization of students about drug menace.

He directed Drug controllers to get the CCTV cameras installed in all hospitals, medical stores of towns and peripheral areas and conduct periodic inspection of medical stores and check their license.

Dr Sagar reiterated that the administration is comHe asked Tehsildars and

on priority basis.

Drugs in Kupwara district

police to verify the property accumulated by drug peddlers and take steps to confiscate this property assembled with the help of drug peddling menace.

On the occasion, the DC stressed upon the Officers of all the line Departments including Enforcement agencies to ensure better coordination in enforcing greater deterrence to combat dangerous trade of drug-trafficking.

He said that efforts with cooperation, coordination and collaboration are vital to contain the drug peddling and break the supply chain, besides taking stringent action against the drug peddlers involved in the hazardous trade of drugs.

The DC said in order to combat this rising societal problem, multi-pronged Rehabilitation, Counselling and Guidance policy is indispensable to be implemented on ground to monitor drug abuse and take mitted to controlling of remedial measures to curb.

VC SKUAST-K inaugurates administrative cum Laboratory Block of KVK-Kupwara and a Hi-Tech Agricultural green house at Bramri Kupwara Asks farmers and growers to take benefit from of all agricultural units

DR. AB QAYOOM

Kupwara, Apr, 13: Vice Chancellor, VC. SKŪAST-K, Prof. Nazir Ahmad Ganai along with Director Extension prof.Dil Mohd Magdoomi today inaugurated A Model Hi-Tech Agricultural green house at Beamri and he also inaugurates Newly constructed administrative cum Laboratory Block of KVK Kupwara in presence of galaxy of Officers like Director Extension Prof Dil Mohammad Makhdoomi, Prof. Tariq Hussain Masoodi, Registrar and DirectorResearch SKUAST-K, Prof. Haroon Rashid Naik Director planning and Monitoring and Estates Officer SKUAST-K.Civil society, Kassin Union Kupwara BDC Member, senior citizens and local farmers were also present on this occasion. Addressing the both functions at Bramri and Kupwara Honourable Vice Chancellor ,SKUAST-K stressed on cultivation of high value crops at KVK-farm and its development on mod-

ern lines. He also stressed on the development of quality planting material of walnut for making it available for the farmers of the district. He advised for development of KVK farm as modal farm for the farmers of the district. Vice Chancellor (VC), said that it was a big breakthrough in the process of One District One programme (ODOP) initiative.He said Kupwara district has already been designated as Walnut Producing District and establishment of Walnut Processing Units is a step forward to achieve the goal.

He asked farmers to contact SKUAST-K, KVK and Agriculture Horticulture departments to get scientific know-how regarding establishing of Hightic green house, Walnut nurseries and plantation of Walnut orchards.

The VC asked farmers to learn more knowledge how they can get maximum benefits from the minimum available land. The VC said that these facilities will increase



the value addition of the Walnut and decrease the labour cost of the product.

The VC expressed his gratitude for District Administration Kupwara for its better support to the SKUAST-K and KVK. On the outset Director Extension SKUAST-K stressed upon the development of kvkfarm onmodern lines, he appreciated the role of KVK in disseminating the latest technologies developed

by SKUAST-K in different areas of district

The ceremony was attended by Prof. Raihna Habib Kanth Dean Faculty of Agriculture, Prof.Shabir Ahmad Wani Dean Faculty of Horticulture, scientists and officers from the Directorate of Extension, Heads of the division from faculties of Agriculture and HorticultureSKUAST-K. Mr.Shoukat Ahmad Masoodi, President Civil Society Kupwara besides some

progressive farmers of Kassin Union Kupwara BDC Member, senior citizens and local farmers were also present on this occasion.

Poppy Crops destroyed in Kulgam.

Farooq Rather.



Kulgam, 13-Apr; Poppy crops spread over 50 kanals of land in Kulgam area was destroyed by the Revenue and Excise officials of District Administration on Thursday.The team comprising Naib Tehsildar Shabir Ahmad, and Excise inspector Nasir Ahmad along with other staff members Excise and Revenue destroyed illicit poppy crops spread over 50 kanals of land in Bugam, Ramgard and other villages of South Kashmir's kulgam district.

No Wealth, No Health: Who Should Pay for the Right to Health?

DR. K MADAN GOPAL

TODAY

Voice To The Voiceless

Tith Rajasthan becoming the first State to pass the Right to Health Bill, the echoes of constitutionalizing the right to health have found new voices across India. Although the Indian Constitution has not explicitly guaranteed the fundamental right to health, the constitution's framers and founding fathers, with their incredibly far-reaching visions, imposed on the State a duty in the form of Directive Principles of State Policy in Part IV of the Constitution. The Directive Principles of the State Policy call for the State to guarantee social and economic justice to its citizens, including healthcare, and have become the foundational stone for the right to health through various articles like Art. 38,39(E),41,42,47, and 48A. However, these Directive Principles of State Policy are non-justiciable, i.e., they cannot be enforced in a court of law. Thus, they only have persuasive value. Further, there are numerous references to public health and the State's function in Accounts, out-of-pocket expendia as Korea, Indonesia, the Maldives, synergistic combination of legal standing at 6.4 per cent of GDP as providing healthcare to citizens ture (OOPE) as a percentage of total Nepal, Thailand, and Timor Leste in the Indian Constitution. Item health expenditure still stands at recognize the right to health and the Indian Constitution obliges the ernment hospitals account for a tional right and oblige the State to State to enhance public health. mere 17.34% of the total current ensure the progressive realization Article 243G and Entry 23 of the health expenditure (CHE). The of these rights. Furthermore, a 11th Schedule – Health and sanita- numbers and figures indicate the quick review of constitutional health centers, and dispensaries vast disparities therein. With the countries shows that the region's also endow the Panchayats and municipalities with the power to skew can be fixed.

strengthen public health. within the scope of the right to life, cases that the nations that have advancing the developments. India as guaranteed by Article 21, made solid legal obligations on the is in a position where it can expand according to numerous rulings by government had a constitutional obligation to provide health ser-

Why the Right to Health?

vices to its citizens.

Although India's existing constitutional provisions, legal precedents, and international commitments provide a strong foundation for a right to health, such a right has yet to be explicitly recognized by law, with the Government Health Expenditure (GHE) standing at 1.28% of GDP, the government needs to consistently catch up to the National Health Policy's goal of allocating public investment of 2.5% of GDP to healthcare. Moreover, over the past fifteen years, the national share of total health spending has decreased by about one-fourth, The total health expenditure as a percentage of GDP decreased from 4.2% to 3.2% between 2004-05 and 2018-19. Contrary to international trends, where health spending as a percentage of GDP has risen over the past 20 years and is close to 10%, the Indian healthcare system conhealthcare services to their citithe region has witnessed a sig-

As Per the latest National Health various South Asian nations such health, which is attributable to a the nation's fiscal deficit, already infant stages.



strongly oblige the State to provide American countries reveals that

government's involvement, this right to health has significantly expanded, resulting from govern-Even the international experimental programs, civil society The right to health is included ence of various countries show- lobbying, and legal safeguards in State to provide healthcare ser- on the health commitments it has health outcomes. The Western national and international frame-Pacific Nations, like Cambodia, Fiji, works to create a country that is Japan, the Philippines, and Viet- both healthy and prosperous. In posed timeline of 2030. nam, explicitly mention the right addition, a quick review of constito health in their constitutions and tutional amendments in Latin



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tinues to be gravely underfunded. zens. Further, the constitutions of nificant expansion of the right to tion is likely to negatively affect to health in India, at least in its

protection, bottom-up pressure from civil society organizations, number 6 in the 7th schedule of a staggering 48.2%. Further, gov-healthcare as a positive constituand the government's motivation and proactive action.

G20 presidency this year, so it is an opportune time for constructive tion, including hospitals, primary State of healthcare in India and the amendments in Latin American discussions and deliberations on formulating legally justiciable public health legislation in India. Such legislation would not only leapfrog India's journey towards achieving its target of achieving universal health coverage as envisaged in the National Health Policy, 2017. Still, it would also ensure that the Supreme Court of India. The vices to its citizens record better already made under multiple India achieves Sustainable Development Goal 3 of good health and well-being' well before the pro-

To convert this 'intent' into 'action' and 'action' into 'outcome,' firstly, there is a need to bring all the stakeholders in the healthcare delivery system to one table so that a comprehensive and robust collaborative manner.

functions.

per the revised estimates 2022-23. Therefore, the financial implications of such legislation must be extensively considered. The gov-Further, India has assumed the ernment can explore ways to mitigate those costs, such as creating additional revenue streams, increasing taxes, redirecting funds from other budget areas, utilizing the private sector financing pathways like CSR funding, community resource pooling, etc.

Further, the Right to Health can inculcate a bottom-up expansion approach with a systematic expansion of coverage from poor to lower-income and, only then, to upper middle-income groups. Such an approach would not only help prioritize service delivery to those who need it most. Still, it will also prove financially feasible and

Thirdly, such legislation must fence the providers' rights in the healthcare service delivery sys-Right to Health legislation can be tems, which remains a neglected envisaged in a consultative and aspect, making the healthcare providers susceptible to frequent Secondly, such legislation might abuse. Finally, the right to health have significant financial implica- is a much broader concept, encomtions for the nation and these can passing the medical domains and be a barrier in our path towards crossing into the social, political, universal healthcare coverage. and economic spheres. As rights Implementing the right to health must be inherently realized within a country like India is expected in the broader social, political, and to cost the nation's exchequer very economic spheres, the formulation heavily. Further, fulfilling the gov- of such an act immediately implies ernment's obligations under such that factors determining health legislation would necessitate addi- and ill health, which are not only tional funds for human resource biological or "natural" but also deployment, infrastructure devel- aspects of societal, political, and opment, reimbursement of the economic relations, are taken into private sector, and public health account and worked upon. Therefore, a "right to health care" is a Moreover, without adequate better alternative and more pracfunding mechanisms, such legisla- tical way to conceptualize the right

NEWS

High Blood Sugar: How Stress Can Impact Diabetes,

tress and anxiety can affect your daily life up to an extent that they may even affect your eating and sleeping schedule. One may feel excessively hungry or lose appetite. Stress can also affect eating habits and physical activity levels, which



can also impact blood sugar levels. For example, some people may turn to unhealthy foods or skip meals when they are stressed, which can cause their blood sugar levels to fluctuate.

Hence, managing stress through techniques such as exercise, meditation, and deep breathing can help to reduce the impact of stress on blood sugar levels. Additionally, people with diabetes may need to adjust their medication or insulin doses during periods of stress to help manage their blood sugar levels. Dr Priyamvada Tyagi, Consultant – Endocrinologist, Max Super Speciality Hospital, Patparganj, East Delhi, explains how stress can impact blood sugar levels and ways to manage it. Dr Tyagi shares that stress can be defined as a state of worry or mental tension caused by a difficult situation. Stress is a natural human response that prompts us to address challenges and threats in our lives. "Everyone experiences stress to some degree. Persistent stress can lead to increased levels of cortisol, and adrenaline (fight or flight hormone) in our body which can increase blood sugar levels. Chronic increase in blood sugar levels increases the risk of complications associated with diabetes," Dr Tyagi said.

What is listeriosis, the deadly bacterial infection caused by eating contaminated salad?



A Michigan based salad kit producer has voluntarily recalled lettuce produced and sold on April 5, 2023 due to listeria contamination, CNN reported. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) has issued a public health alert on April 7 for ready to eat salad products. "The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is issuing a public health alert for ready-to-eat (RTE) fresh salad products with chicken and ham that contain Food and Drug Administration(FDA)regulated lettuce that has been recalled for possible Listeria monocytogenes (Lm) contamination," the public health alert read. Listeriosis is a bacterial infection caused by consuming foods contaminated with Listeria monocytogenes. It is a serious infection and can be life threatening for older adults, those with weakened immune systems, pregnant women and their newborns. On the current alert issued on listeriosis, the US FSIS says "there have been no confirmed reports of adverse reactions"

Why are silent heart attacks increasing at an alarming rate?

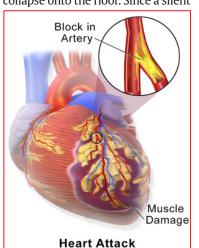
A 65-year-old woman with a history of Type 2 diabetes was managing her diabetes well with a healthy diet, regular exercise and medication as prescribed by her doctor. However, she had not been feeling quite herself lately. She had been experiencing shortness of breath, fatigue and chest discomfort, but she attributed these symptoms to her age and diabetes. She was referred to me for evaluation and investigations revealed that the patient had suffered a silent heart attack. Coronary angiography revealed that she had significant blockages in her coronary arteries, which had caused the silent heart attack. She underwent angioplasty and is currently on regular follow-up.

Another 50-year-old smoker with a history of exertional breathlessness and wheezing was being treated for asthma control with no noticeable benefit. This gentleman was again referred to me for evaluation which revealed heart failure as the reason

for his symptoms. Heart failure had been caused by a silent heart attack. He improved with heart failure treatment and appropriate management of his Coronary Artery Disease (CAD). Incidental findings are common in medicine and often lead to diagnostic and management dilemmas. One such perplexing patient group - individuals without symptoms who are found to have a previously undiagnosed heart attack or silent myocardial infarction (SMI) — is increasing in prevalence at an alarming rate.

People often don't know they've had a silent heart attack until weeks or months later when a healthcare provider finds heart damage. Missing signs or symptoms normally unrelated to a heart attack can make it tricky to identify a silent heart attack. But it still causes damage like any other heart attack, hence it is a matter of great concern. If you have ever seen a movie where an actor has a heart attack, you've probably seen them

clutch their chest, groaning with severe crushing pain, drenched in sweat, eyes rolling back before they collapse onto the floor. Since a silent



heart attack doesn't produce any noticeable symptoms, it goes unrecognised by the patient.

WHAT IS A SILENT HEART ATTACK?

Aheart attack is called "silent" when it has no symptoms, mild symptoms or symptoms people don't connect to a heart attack. SMI symptoms can feel so mild, and be so brief, they often get confused for regular discomfort or another less serious problem, very commonly dismissed as "gas", flu like symptom and thus ignored.

HOW DOES A SILENT HEART ATTACK AFFECT THE BODY?

The heart needs oxygen-rich blood to function. If plaque (comprising cholesterol and other substances) builds up in the walls of arteries supplying blood to the heart, this blood flow is significantly reduced. The blood flow can be completely cut off when there is a rupture of the plaque followed by blood clots occluding the lumen of the artery leading to a heart attack. Less often, a coronary artery spasm can cut off the blood flow. The longer the heart has no blood flow, the more damage that occurs.

In SMI, because there is no pain, a person may not know they have suffered a heart attack and may not seek medical attention in time. Without timely treatment, silent heart attacks can be deadly. These can happen in sleep or wide awake. They can happen when one just goes through something very physically or emotionally stressful or becomes quickly more physically active and even when physically active outside in the cold. A 2018 study found that people who have had a silent heart attack have the same long-term survival as those who have had ordinary heart attacks. The authors found that about half of all survivors of a silent heart attack died within 10 years of the incident, which is the same rate as for survivors of other heart attacks. However, people who have had a silent heart attack are at risk of other complications, such as heart failure and stroke. According another 2018 study, a person who has had a silent heart attack has an estimated 35 per cent higher risk of heart failure than a person without a history of heart attacks. People in their early 50s or younger have an even greater risk.

HOW COMMON IS A SILENT HEART ATTACK?

Fifty to 80 per cent of all heart attacks are estimated to be silent in various populations. According to the American Heart Association, SMI accounts for about 170,000 of the estimated 805,000 heart attacks in

WHO DOES A SILENT HEART ATTACK AFFECT?

It is estimated that silent heart attacks are commoner in women, the elderly and in diabetics. Risk factors for a silent heart attack, which are the same as for a recognised heart attack,





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