

!! Continuations from Page 1 !! Corona Curfew extended...

the patients reaching hospitals, and further directed for strict implementation of hospital referral policy; besides proper patient management through dedicated call centres and helpline numbers.

The Lt Governor also took stock of the availability of ration, vegetables and supply of essential commodities to the public during Corona Curfew to which Divisional Commissioner Jammu apprised him that vegetable Mandis are opening in early hours of the day under proper corona containment measures.

Pertinently, Crisis Management Group was already constituted to monitor the evolving COVID-19 situation and take preventive, control and mitigating measures.

BVR Subrahmanyam, Chief Secretary; Arun Kumar Mehta, Financial Commissioner; Finance Department; Atal Dulloo, Financial Commissioner; Health and Medical Education; Shaleen Kabra, Principal Secretary to the Government, Home Department; Shailendra Kumar, Principal Secretary to the Government, Public Works (R&B) Department; Nitishwar Kumar, Principal Secretary to the Lt Governor; Ranjan Prakash Thakur, Principal Secretary to the Government, Industries & Commerce; Dr. Raghav Langer, Divisional Commissioner Jammu; Choudhary Mohammad Yasin, Mission Director; NHM; Rahul Pandey, Director Information and other senior officers were present during the meeting.

Two terrorists killed...

case under relevant sections of law and investigation has been initiated. People have been requested to cooperate with police till the area is completely sanitized and cleared off of all the explosive materials, if any.

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GMC Jammu and its Hospitals, carried out by a team of experts from IIT Jammu, GCET and SMVDU last week had also pointed out that the 'paramedical staff be trained in the handling of the knobs and valves to restrict wastage and be made aware of the shortage of oxygen supply.' The team had also recommended that proper roaster be prepared for regular maintenance of all equipments and machinery corresponding to the supply of oxygen to patients.

Keeping in view the present situation, the panel has recommended that the inventory and capacity of cylinders should be increased as soon as possible at all three facilities, Maternity Child Health (MCH) Hospital Gandhi Nagar (Designated COVID Hospital) Jammu, Government Hospital, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu and Government Medical College Jammu.

The expert panel also suggested that flooring of manifold area may be re-laid with RCC and rubber padding for handling of oxygen cylinders.

And most importantly, it was observed by the committee that the filled cylinders are not being checked for their weight. The committee recommended that the cylinders should be randomly checked before being installed in the presence of officials from Legal and Metrology Department so as to verify the quantity and capacity of the supplied cylinders.

Analysis of the cases reported across the Union Territory reveals that despite detection of more patients in the Valley, the recovery rate is better and the mortality lesser due to better COVID management. On the contrary, more fatalities are taking place in the Jammu region due to inadequate facilities and unfortunate infirmities in the management. The situation seems to be getting out of control with ever increasing deaths in the division.

Out of 21 deaths reported across the Union Territory on April 25, five died in GMC Jammu, one each in MH Satwari, ASCOMS and Kathua; four in SMHS Srinagar; two each in CD Hospital Srinagar and SKIMS Soura, one each in GMC Anantnag and DH Kulgam.

On April 26 out of 25 deaths, 6 died in GMC Jammu, 1 in MH Satwari, 1 in ASCOMS; 1 in CH Udhampur; 1 in Rajouri, 5 in SMHS Srinagar, 1 in JLNMS Srinagar, 2 in SKIMS, 2 in GMC Anantnag and 1 in DH Pulwama.

On April 27, out of 25 deaths, seven died in GMC Jammu; two in SMVDNSH Katra, one each in CD Hospital Jammu and GMC Rajouri; two in SMHS Srinagar, three in JLNMS Srinagar, and one in GMC Anantnag.

Out of 30 fatalities on April 28, six took place in GMC Jammu, two in ASCOMS, one in GMC Kathua, three in JLNMS Srinagar; six in SKIMS Soura, two each in GMC Baramulla and GMC Anantnag, three in SMHS Srinagar; one each in CD Hospital Srinagar and SKIMS Binnina.

On April 29, out of 26 deaths, seven died in GMC Jammu, one each in DH Udhampur; MH, GMC Doda and Basantgarh, two each in Kathua and JLNMS Srinagar; one each in SKIMS Soura and HGMC Baramulla, two each in GMC Anantnag and DH Pulwama.

Out of 30 deaths on April 30, nine died in GMC Jammu, two in GMC Rajouri, one in JLNMS Srinagar, five in SKIMS Soura, four in SMHS Srinagar and two in CD Hospital Srinagar.

On May 1, 47 deaths were reported, 13 in GMC Jammu, three in GMC Rajouri, two in GMC Kathua, four in ASCOMS, one in CD Hospital Jammu, two in JLNMS Srinagar; five in SKIMS Soura and one in CH Sopore.

Out of 47 deaths on May 2, 15 died in GMC Jammu, two in GMC Rajouri, five in SMVDNH Katra, one each in GMC Kathua and GMC Doda, two each in JLNMS Srinagar and SKIMS Soura, three in SMHS and one in SKIMS.

Of the 51 deaths on May 3, 24 died in GMC Jammu, two each in MCH wing of GMC Jammu and Rajouri, one each in GMC Doda, Ramban and Poonch, 31 in CD Hospital Srinagar; six in SKIMS Soura besides one each in Kupwara and Kulagam.

Out of 37 deaths on May 4, 10 died in GMC Jammu, three in GMC Rajouri, one in GMC Doda, two in CD hospital Jammu, one in SMVDNH Katra, two in CD Hospital Srinagar, one in SKIMS Soura and four in SMHS Srinagar.

143 arrested in...

valley," an official said. Since the outbreak of the second wave of the coronavirus, the J&K Police has enhanced its efforts to sensitise the masses about the highly contagious disease.

A slew of measures, including restrictions under section 144 of the CrPC, have been imposed in the region.

Ladakh adds 89...

patients were discharged the previous day after they recovered from the infection, taking the number of recoveries to 12,884, the officials said.

Of the 14,315 cases recorded so far in the union territory, 11,871 were reported from Leh and 2,444 from Kargil, they said.

Legal notice on...

endocrinology in the Government Medical College, Jammu, and was a consultant, clinical practitioner. Our Client has also authored eight books and is an intellectual scholar. He has also been a newspaper columnist and his popular weekly column "Tales of Travesty" used to feature in the editorial page of the newspaper uninterruptedly for almost three decades until his election to the Lok Sabha in 2014.

He is the ex-chairman for the National Scientific Committee Diabetes and Life Patron of the prestigious national body "Research Society for the Study of Diabetes in India".

Dr Jitendra has dedicated and devoted his life to public service and to the citizens of India including the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir to serve them earlier as a doctor and now as their elected representative in Lok Sabha from Udhampur.

He has always been known for philanthropy. As a practising doctor, Dr Jitendra held hundreds of free medical camps, treated poor patients of Diabetes free of cost and did charitable work among displaced Kashmiri Pandits and deprived sections of society. He resigned from the lucrative and coveted post of Professor in Government Medical College (which is a rarest of rare step) when he was called to take up the organisational work in public life as a political office-bearer.

Dr Jitendra resigned from his high profile government job at a time when in Jammu & Kashmir, even after retirement nobody joined the political party which he joined.

He also immediately gave up his roaring and flourishing private practice as a doctor, when he was asked to move to Delhi to take up his present assignment to serve the nation and citizens.

As a minister of science and technology, Dr Jitendra launched India's first indigenously made research vessel named "Sindhu Sadhana" on July 14, 2014 from Mormugao harbour in Goa. During his tenure as a minister of state in space and atomic energy, the fourth Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System was launched by ISRO in April 2015 which would provide "navigation and communication facility to all the surrounding countries".

He introduced the use of satellite imaging for surveying and building roads and for "preparation of utilization certificates with fool-proof accuracy" when he was appointed Minister of State (Independent charge) in the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region.

Dr Singh is a public figure having an impeccable and spotless reputation and image. Our Client is widely known and has earned immense goodwill through his service to the nation and people.

The notice further states that on May 3, 2021, (Vikram Randhawa) you held a press conference with various media, news channels, print media, journalists, etc. and in the said press conference you have made completely false, wrong and baseless allegations against Our Client (Dr Jitendra Singh).

On May 3, you have also given an interview on FB News where-in you have repeated the same false, wrong and baseless allegations against our client.

In the press-conference and also in the interview both of which were held by you on May 3, you have made false, wrong and baseless allegations against our client with malafide and ulterior motive to mischievously use the name of our Client to blackmail government authorities to withdraw notices issued against you for your illegal and unauthorised activities and business.

From your said press conference and interview held on May 3,

it appears that you (Vikram Randhawa) had received certain notices of demand for payment / penalty from Government Departments for recovery of amounts pursuant to proceedings pending before the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir, which are sub-judice and in the wake of such notices, you had called the press conference and given the interviews as you were not able to get any support to stop those demands.

You have made and published wrong, baseless and false allegations and imputations against Our Client, fully knowing and having reasons to believe that the same will tarnish and harm the image of Our Client. You have deliberately, malafide and maliciously defamed Our Client, states the legal notice.

Our Client has received several messages and calls from different places including from Delhi and Jammu inquiring about the wrong, baseless and false allegations and imputations made by you. Our Client has also noticed the totally disgraceful and disrespectful comments, allegations and messages that are being posted against Our Client on digital media/ social media which are being read by everyone, and which are based on the wrong, baseless and false allegations that were made by you against Our Client. Several persons including friends, relatives, associates, etc. of Our Client have after hearing, watching and reading the defamatory allegations made by you against Our Client made enquiries from Our Client with regards to the said defamatory allegations.

On account of the wrong, baseless and false allegations made by you against Our Client years of hard work and service dedicated by Our Client and his reputation in the eyes of the public has been tarnished and lowered.

Our Client is neither the MP from the area, that is, Jammu constituency (in relation to which the dispute pertains) and nor is Our Client the Minister concerned with the department of Geology and Mining, which has issued the notices to you.

Despite this, you have made wrong, baseless and false allegations against Our Client. Furthermore, when the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir is seized of the issue for you to make these allegations against Our Client was nothing but an attempt to pressurize, threaten and overreach the judicial proceedings and to prevent the concerned officers of the State and public servants from discharging their public duties and function.

You have defamed our client. You the above-named addressee have made and published highly damaging allegations and imputations against Our Client, intending to harm, and knowing that such imputation will harm, and have actually harmed and lowered the reputation of Our Client and have committed the offence of 'DEFAMATION' as defined under Section 499 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 which is punishable under Section 500 Indian Penal Code, 1860.

On behalf of Our Client, we hereby call upon you the above-named addressee to, within 24 hours from the date of receipt of this notice by you,

(i) tender and issue an unconditional and unequivocal written apology to Our Client clearly stating therein that all the allegations and/or any imputation and/or insinuation made by you the above-named addressee against Our Client and Our Client's office in any interview, press conference, publication, social media, digital platform, etc. was without any basis and was not verified and/or factually correct and that all of them are withdrawn by you;

(ii) issue a statement to all the media and press channels including those who were present in the press-conference / interview held by you on May 3, 21 or any other date and informing them that the allegations and/or any imputation and/or insinuation made by you the above-named addressee against Our Client and Our Client's office in any interview, press conference, etc. was without any basis and was not verified and/or factually correct and that all of them are withdrawn by you; and

(iii) publish your apology to Our Client as mentioned above in the news papers/ print media having circulation in Jammu and Delhi.

The legal notice further states that "Our Client has instructed us to put you to notice, which we hereby do, that in case you the above-named addressee fail/ neglect / refuse to comply with paragraph no. 22 above of this notice, then, Our Client shall initiate appropriate legal proceedings both criminal and civil including but not limited to those for defamation under Section 499 and for other offences under the India Penal Code, 1860 and also for damages for a sum of Rs.1.00 crore (Rupees One Crore only) against you the above-named addressee, needless to state at your sole risk as to cost and consequences."

This legal notice does not limit and is without prejudice to all the rights, remedies and contentions of Our Client against you, all of which are hereby reserved, adds the legal notice to Ex-MLC Vikram, Randhawa".

Three-member panel...

of river bed material from Tawi river besides measures for allowing regulated mining and disposal of river bed material to prevent flash flood incidents.

the committee shall also examine the allegations made and the representations received about the high handedness of the department.

"The committee shall be serviced by Directorate of Geology and

Mining Department, J&K and will submit its report within a week's time," it added.

Former J&K Governor...

family and friends," Kovind tweeted. Prime Minister Modi said in his tribute, "Jagmohan ji's demise is a monumental loss for our nation".

"He was an exemplary administrator and a renowned scholar. He always worked towards the betterment of India. His ministerial tenure was marked by innovative policy making. Condolences to his family and admirers. Om Shanti," he said.

Jagmohan's demolition drive in the national capital, especially in old Delhi, as part of the beautification plan during the Emergency (1975-77) proved controversial as it faced protests, which turned violent in some places like Turkman Gate.

He was later made Delhi's lieutenant governor and was praised for preparing the city to host the Asian Games in 1982.

However, it is his legacy as Jammu and Kashmir governor that has polarised opinions most as his hard line on security issues drew him closer to the BJP while inviting fierce criticism from many others, including politicians from the Valley.

Jagmohan was first appointed the erstwhile state's governor in 1984 and completed his five-year tenure. As militancy erupted there, he was made the governor again in 1990 but was removed within a few months as differences between him and the then V P Singh-led government at the Centre grew over tackling militancy in the region.

His book, My Frozen Turbulence in Kashmir, in which he dwelt on his tenure as governor, was a bestseller and went into several reprints.

Jagmohan represented the BJP in Lok Sabha several times from the New Delhi constituency and was a minister in the Atal Bihari Vajpayee government.

A pointer to the appreciation he drew from central governments of contrasting ideologies for his work is that he received Padma Shri and Padma Bhushan when the Congress was in power at the Centre in the 70s and was then honoured with Padma Vibhushan, India's second highest civilian award, by the Modi government in 2016.

An author and voracious reader, Jagmohan would spend hours in India International Centre library here reading and taking notes before illness forced him to keep away in the last couple of years.

In his tribute, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said, "Shri Jagmohan Ji will always be remembered for his remarkable tenure as the Governor of J&K. An able administrator and later a devoted politician who took key decisions for the nation's peace & progress. India mourns his sad demise. My deepest condolences to his family. Om Shanti."

The office of the Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor tweeted, "Saddened to hear about the demise of Shri Jagmohan Ji, former governor of J&K. He was a great visionary, dynamic and effective administrator. Jagmohan Ji will be remembered for his great contributions, reforms in J&K and untiring efforts to serve the society."

3-days state...

shall fly at half-mast during the state mourning on all buildings and places where it is flown regularly. There shall be no official entertainment/function during the state mourning," Dwivedi said in his notification.

Two PWD SEs...

Kashmir and Pardeep Kumar Sharma, Chief Engineer (Civil) as Executive Director; JKPCCL Limited.

Meanwhile as per another order, Gagan Jyoti, Chief Engineer, MEU, Jammu has been transferred and posted as Director, Stores & Procurement Department, J&K and Naresh Khajuria, MD Cements, J&K, Jammu on his repatriation from the Industries & Commerce Department has been posted as Chief Engineer, MHD, Jammu.

Petrol price up...

Rs 80.73 previously. Rates have been increased across the country and vary from state to state depending on the local incidence of taxation (VAT). Oil companies, who have in recent months resorted to unexplained freeze in rate revision, had hit a pause button after cutting prices marginally on April 15. This coincided with electioneering hitting peak to elect new governments in five states including West Bengal. No sooner had voting ended, oil companies indicated an impending increase in retail prices in view of firming trends in international oil markets.

Ashwani posted as...

Department, is deployed to discharge the duties of Administrator, Associated Hospitals, Jammu, till further orders," reads and order issued by Manoj Kumar Dwivedi, Commissioner/Secretary, General Administration Department.

The order further stated that Rachna Sharma, KAS, Administrator, Associated Hospitals, Jammu, shall report to the General Administration Department, till final orders are issued.

three separate incidents in Samba and Kathua.

As per details, acting on an information received from the residents of village Satah, Samba regarding smuggling of bovines, a team from Police Station Samba arrested 3 bovine smugglers moving on foot with a herd of 46 cattle towards Valley without permission. The accused, identified as Israail, son of Taj Din; Mureed Ali, son of Alam Din; Shakkid, son of Sain Ali, all residents of village Sarba, Ramgarh, were arrested on spot and bovines were rescued. In this connection, a case FIR No. 140/2021 under Section 188 of IPC was registered at Police Station Samba and investigation started.

Similarly in another incident, a party of police post Mansar intercepted two persons at Mansar Naka moving with a herd of 26 cattle without permission, which were coming from Samba side and heading towards Valley on foot. The accused persons were identified as Roshan Din, son of Kashim Din, resident of Sarore, Bari-Brahmana and Shamish Din, son of Rahim Din, resident of Rakh Barotian, Vijaypur. They were arrested on spot and a case vide FIR No. 142/2021 under section 188 IPC was registered at Police Station Samba.

Meanwhile, a party from Police Station Kathua while on Naka checking duty near Sakta Chak observed a truck (JK02AS-1160) and signaled it to stop. On seeing Police, the driver of truck stopped it far behind the Naka point and fled away. Thereafter, Police team was able to rescue 11 bovines which were being transported illegally. Accordingly, a case FIR No. 220/2021 under Section 188 of IPC and 11 of PCA Act was registered at Kathua Police Station and further investigation in this matter has been initiated.

FD Bhadarwah seizes illicit timber worth lakhs

■ STATE TIMES NEWS BHADARWAH: Continuing its drive against illicit loggers to curb increasing menace of smuggling of green timber especially during COVID-19 spike, sleuths of Forest Division (FD) Bhadarwah along with Forest Protection Force (FPF) foiled a smuggling bid, by seizing timber worth lakhs, extracted from Chiralla range of Bhadarwah Forest Division, at Laachan Chinchora area of Bhadarwah on Tuesday.

According to reports, acting swiftly on an information regarding smuggling of illicit timber in Forest Division Bhadarwah, a team from FD Bhadarwah led by Range Officer (RO) Neeru, Shafqat Khakhan Malik and under supervision of DFO Bhadarwah, Chander Shekhar carried out an operation along with FPF guards and seized 92 Scants/Kandails.

It is notable that DFO Bhadarwah Chander Shekhar has constituted several teams to keep a check on smuggling of green gold from the area, especially during COVID-19 spike.

Shafqat Khakhan Malik said that on receiving an information regarding smuggling of green gold, my team along FPF immediately rushed to compartment number 4 of Neeru range and seized 92 Scants/Kandails approximately 150 CFT, which was extracted from compartment No 31 in Jaie block of Chiralla range. "To strictly check the menace of timber smuggling nexus, Forest Department and Forest Protection Force officials have deeply involved public in protection and conservation of forests," said RO Neeru Range, Shafqat Khakhan Malik. "Illicit timber has been seized and a case has been registered under relevant forest sections to initiate necessary action under rules," Malik said, adding that every possible effort has been taken to nab smugglers as this is first of its kind inter-range smuggling.

COVID-19 SoPs: Rs 6,400 fine recovered from violators

■ STATE TIMES NEWS RAMBAN: Continuing drive to implement COVID protocols in district Ramban, the Enforcement teams on Tuesday fined scores of violators for roaming without wearing face masks and not maintaining physical distance.

The enforcement teams, during inspection in their respective jurisdictions, recovered a fine of Rs 6,400 taking the total amount fined since April 1, 2021 to Rs. 5, 30,800. The Enforcement officers urged people to wear face masks and maintain physical distancing, besides taking COVID vaccination at their nearest CVC.

District Immunization Officer Ramban, Dr Suresh informed that as many as 1,524 persons were administered first and second COVID vaccine doses across Ramban district.

As per daily bulletin issued by Chief Medical Officer Ramban, Dr Mohammad Fareed Bhat, the Health Department has collected 1,105 samples including 232 RT-PCR and 873 RAT samples besides administering COVID vaccine to 1,524 persons at dedicated Vaccination Centres in the district.

Mobile recovery case: Investigation teams visit Kot Bhalwal Jail

■ STATE TIMES NEWS JAMMU: The investigation teams reached Kot Bhalwal Jail on Tuesday for investigation. On Tuesday, a team paid a surprise visit to jail to investigate the case related to mobile phone recovery. Firstly, a team led by an inspector rank officer of NIA reached jail and conducted investigation, thereafter second investigation team investigated for a long time. In addition to checking, the record was also scrutinized. After investigating, the teams went back. Sources said that teams also

questioned some prisoners.

It is pertinent to mention here, two days ago seven mobile phones were recovered in jail.

Three drug peddlers nabbed, contraband recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS REASI/SAMBA/KATHUA: Police on Tuesday nabbed three drug peddlers and recovered contraband from their possession.

As per details, a team from Police Station Reasi laid a surprise Naka near Bus Stand area and intercepted a notorious drug peddler, namely Mohd Iqbal, son of Abdul Aziz, resident of Malas, at present Gunn, Reasi and recovered 70 gm Charas like substance from his possession. He was arrested and a case vide FIR No. 88/2021 under Sections 8/20 of NDPS Act was registered against him at Police Station Reasi.

Meanwhile, a party of Police Station Bari-Brahmana while performing vehicle checking duty near Kala Gate Industrial area Bari Brahmana, intercepted a Sooty (JK21C-4883) coming from Smailpur side. During checking, 16 Challis of Charas like substance, wrapped in maize cover, were recovered from compartment of sooty. The accused, identified as Gafour Mohd, son of Gh. Qader, resident of Meen Sarkar, Bari Brahmana, was arrested on the spot and contraband item was also seized. A case vide FIR No. 118/2021 under section 8/20 of NDPS Act was registered at Police Station Bari-Brahmana.

In another incident, a team of Police Post Hatli during Naka checking on NH Hatli apprehended a suspect namely Rahul Prajapati, son of Prem Paul, resident of Chau Ki Basti, Line Paar, Muradabad (UP) at present Chak Ramsingh (Govindar), who was coming from Railway Station towards Hatli Morh. During his search, the team recovered 4 packets of Ganja (1 Kg each) from his possession. Police has seized the contraband and arrested the accused. A case vide FIR No 219/2021 under Sections 8/20 of NDPS Act was registered against him at Police Station Kathua.

Two commit suicide

■ STATE TIMES NEWS CHENANI/KATHUA: Two persons committed suicide by consuming poison at their respective houses on Tuesday.

As per details, Ajay Kumar, son of Ashok Kumar, resident of Batote consumed some poisonous substance at his relative's house at Chaperi area and was shifted to hospital, where he succumbed.

Meanwhile, Bunty Kumar, son of Papu Ram, resident of Janglote also consumed poison in his house and died.

CRIMEREPORT

Health Deptt employee among two killed, 11 injured in mishaps

■ STATE TIMES NEWS DODA: A Health Department employee among two persons was killed while 11 others got injured in twin road accidents at Doda and Kishtwar on Tuesday.

As per details, a Maruti car met with an accident due to which a person died on the spot, while two others got injured on Bhagwat road near Chapnari. The deceased has been identified as Lassa Sheikh, who was working in health department. The official said that injured persons were shifted to GMC Doda for treatment.

Meanwhile a Tata Sumo (JK17-1248), on its way to Hasti Sarthal, turned turtle due to which 10 passengers travelling in it got injured. They were shifted to hospital where doctor declared one of them as brought dead. The deceased was identified as Chetu Ram, son of Jodh Ram, resident of Tregram while Vijay Kumar, Jagdish Raj, Sandeep Kumar, Kamla, Arjun Kumar, Sandeep Kumar, Suraj Kumar, Naitik Kumar and Sunita Devi were among injured.

Nine arrested, 7 vehicles seized for illegal mining

■ STATE TIMES NEWS SRINAGAR: Police has arrested 9 persons and seized 7 vehicles involved in illegal extraction and transportation of raw materials in Baramulla.

Police parties from Police Station Baramulla, Police Post Mirgund and Police Post Kungambara arrested 9 persons and seized 3 tractors, 3 tippers & a JCB machine involved in illegal extraction and transportation of raw materials at Baramulla, Chandsuma, Singhpora Pattan and Kungambara Chowk. The accused were arrested and shifted to Police Station where they remained in custody. Accordingly, cases under relevant sections of law were registered at concerned police stations and investigations have been taken up.

83 bovines rescued, 5 smugglers arrested

■ STATE TIMES NEWS SAMBA/KATHUA: Continuing its drive against bovine smuggling, Police successfully foiled attempts to smuggle bovines by rescuing 83 bovines by arresting 5 smugglers in