

!! Continuations from Page 1 !!

Geelani quits Hurriyat...

various means so that the next course of action could be decided but all my efforts (to get in touch) went in vain. Now that the sword of accountability is hanging over your heads for the financial and other irregularities, you thought of calling the advisory committee meeting," he alleged.

Geelani said he was forced by the constituent parties in 2003 to take over the reins of the Hurriyat Conference and was made its lifetime chairman later.

"The lack of discipline and other shortcomings were ignored and you did not allow a robust accountability system to be established over the years but today, you have crossed all limits and indulged in rebellion against the leadership," he added.

Three terrorists killed...

have been taken into case records for further investigation and to probe their complicity in other terror crimes.

The bodies of the killed terrorists have been sent to Handwara for their last rites after conducting medico-legal formalities including collection of their DNA.

IGP Kashmir appreciated JKP and the security forces for exercising utmost restraint, thereby ensured a clean operation with no collateral damage.

A case under relevant sections of law has been registered in Police Station Mattan and investigation has been initiated.

JKRTC driver disengaged...

and reports submitted by General Manager (Operation) Jammu and General Manager (Operation) Kashmir wherein they proposed for awarding punishment against two erring conductors and one CB Driver as per provision contained in Employees (Discipline & Conduct Regulation, 2012) regarding indulging into the act of misappropriation of Corporation revenue.

The order further reads that in view of magnanimity of offence a total of Rs. 1,70,553 penalty has been imposed on two Conductors of the Corporation including the calculated penalty of an amount of Rs.1,61,035 imposed on Mohammad Salim, Conductor Reg. No. 3106 besides Rs. 9,518 imposed on Tara Chand, Conductor Reg. No. 2542 which shall be recoverable from their salaries in installments. They will also furnish an undertaking to the effect that they will not repeat similar practice in future.

Further, the consolidated services of the erring CB driver namely Ghulam-Moh Ud Din shall be dispensed with immediate effect for gross violation of his legitimate duties.

Angrez Singh Rana stated that the activities of any employee which are inimical to Corporation interests cannot be tolerated particularly in a situation of financial distress and warned all employees of Corporation to remain punctual and perform their legitimate duties with utmost dedication and sincerity.

India bans 59...

activities which are prejudicial to sovereignty and integrity of India, defence of India, security of state and public order".

The move will "safeguard the interests of crores of Indian mobile and internet users. This decision is a targeted move to ensure safety and sovereignty of Indian cyberspace", it added.

The list included prominent names like TikTok (which has over 200 million users in India), SHAREit, WeChat, UC Browser; Helo, Likee and Cam Scanner, among others.

The Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre, Ministry of Home Affairs, has also sent an exhaustive recommendation for blocking these malicious apps, the statement said, adding that there has been a strong chorus in the public space to take strict action against apps that harm India's sovereignty as well as the privacy of citizens.

Likewise, there have been similar bipartisan concerns, flagged by various public representatives, both outside and inside Parliament.

"On the basis of these and upon receiving recent credible inputs that such apps pose threat to sovereignty and integrity of India, the Government of India has decided to disallow the usage of certain apps, used in both mobile and non-mobile Internet enabled devices," it added.

Comments from these companies could not be immediately obtained.

"There have been raging concerns on aspects relating to data security and safeguarding the privacy of 130 crore Indians. It has been noted recently that such concerns also pose a threat to sovereignty and security of our country," the statement said.

Over 2015-19, Chinese investors including Alibaba, Tencent, TR Capital and Hillhouse Capital, have invested over USD 5.5 billion in Indian startups, according to Venture Intelligence that tracks private equity, venture capital, M&A transactions and valuations, in India.

Ladakh standoff: India...

previous two rounds of dialogue took place at Moldo on the Chinese side of the LAC.

On Tuesday, the two sides are expected to deliberate on moving forward in implementing the decision to disengage of the forces, the sources said, adding any significant breakthrough is unlikely to emerge from the talks.

The Indian delegation at the meeting will be headed by 14 Corps Commander Lt Gen Harinder Singh while the Chinese side is likely to be led by the Commander of the Tibet Military District Major General Liu Lin.

Following the Galwan Valley incident, the government has given the armed forces "full freedom" to give a "befitting" response to any Chinese misadventure along the LAC, the 3,500-km de-facto border.

The Army has sent thousands of additional troops to forward locations along the border in the last two weeks. The IAF has also moved air defence systems as well as a sizeable number of its frontline combat jets and attack helicopters to several key air bases.

In a strongly-worded statement, the external affairs ministry last week held China responsible for the standoff saying it has been amassing a large contingent of troops and armaments along the LAC since early May and that conduct of the Chinese forces is in complete disregard of all mutually agreed norms.

The first round of the Lt General talks were held on June 6 during which both sides finalised an agreement to disengage gradually from all the standoff points beginning with Galwan Valley.

However, the situation deteriorated following the Galwan Valley clashes as the two sides significantly bolstered their deployments in most areas along the LAC.

Tensions had escalated in eastern Ladakh after around 250 Chinese and Indian soldiers were engaged in a violent face-off on May 5 and 6. The incident in Pangong Tso was followed by a similar incident in north Sikkim on May 9.

Prior to the clashes, both sides had been asserting that pending the final resolution of the boundary issue, it was necessary to maintain peace and tranquillity in the border areas.

‘Gaganyaan’ launch not...

training of astronauts has now been resumed and the launch is scheduled to take place as planned, before the 75th anniversary of India's independence in 2022, he said.

Elaborating on the cabinet decision to encourage private participation in ISRO activities, Dr Singh said, a regulatory body called "Indian National Space Promotion & Authorization Centre (IN-SPACo)" is to be established. This will help provide a level playing field to private players and

encourage their participation, he said.

Dr Jitendra said, besides enhancing the capacity and resources of our space missions, increased participation of private players will also discourage the brain drain of talented space scientists and experts who were otherwise moving out of India in search of a break.

About Chandrayaan-3 Lunar mission, Dr Singh said, as of today, it is planned for launch next year. This mission will involve a lander, rover and a propulsion system to carry the modules to move but it would not have orbiter as the previous orbiter is fully operational, he added.

Vivek given addl...

to UT of J&K, has been posted as Superintendent of Police, Udhampur.

"Bhim Sen Tuti (IPS), DIG, JKS Range and Rajiv Omprakash Pande (IPS), SP Udhampur, under orders of transfers from UT of J&K to UT of Ladakh, in terms of the order under reference, shall be deemed to have been relieved with immediate effect, with further directions to report at their news places of postings, forthwith," the order reads earlier.

144 new corona...

11 in Jammu division and 84 in Kashmir division.

The Bulletin further said that out of 358530 test results available, 351293 samples have been tested as negative till June 29, 2020.

Additionally, till date 278689 travelers and persons in contact with suspected cases have been enlisted for surveillance which included 40312 persons in home quarantine including facilities operated by government, 34 in Hospital Quarantine, 2557 in hospital isolation and 47145 under home surveillance. Besides, 188546 persons have completed their surveillance period.

Providing district-wise breakup, the Bulletin said that Bandipora has 291 positive cases (including 02 cases reported today) with 35 Active Positive, 255 recovered (including 05 cases recovered today) and 01 death; Srinagar has 891 positive cases (including 17 cases reported today) with 604 Active Positive, 265 recovered (including 03 cases recovered today), 22 deaths; Anantnag district has 650 positive cases (including 15 cases reported today), with 101 Active Positive, 543 recovered (including 80 cases recovered today), 06 deaths; Baramulla has 816 positive cases (including 10 cases reported today) with 420 Active Positive, 381 recovered (including 06 cases recovered today), 15 deaths; Shopian has 750 positive cases (including 18 cases reported today) with 194 Active Positive, 545 recovered (including 13 cases recovered today) and 11 deaths; Kupwara has 536 positive cases (including 02 cases reported today) with 140 Active Positive, 391 recovered (including 11 cases recovered today) and 05 deaths; Budgam has 397 positive cases (including 04 cases reported today) with 174 Active Positive and 216 recovered cases (including 07 cases recovered today) and 07 deaths; Ganderbal has 91 positive cases (including 01 case reported today) with 29 active positive cases and 62 recoveries; Kulgam has 767 positive cases (including 01 case reported today), with 170 Active Positive and 584 recoveries (including 83 cases recovered today) and 13 deaths and Pulwama reported 469 positive cases (including 29 cases reported today) with 258 active positive cases and 207 recovered (including 06 cases recovered today) and 04 deaths.

Similarly, Jammu has 336 positive cases (including 03 cases reported today) with 51 active positive cases and 278 recoveries (including 11 cases recovered today) and 07 deaths; Udhampur has 272 positive cases (including 03 cases reported today) with 99 active positive cases, 172 recovered (including 03 cases recovered today) and 01 death; Samba has 144 positive cases (including 08 cases reported today) with 58 Active Positive and 86 recoveries (including 02 cases recovered today; Rajouri has 111 positive cases (including 07 cases reported today) with 50 active positive cases and 60 recovered (including 07 cases recovered today) and 01 death; Kathua has 227 positive cases (including 13 cases reported today) with 71 Active positive and 156 recovered (including 04 cases recovered today); Kishtwar has 27 positive cases with 07 active positive cases and 20 recovered; Ramban has 217 positive cases (including 01 case reported today) with 35 active positive and 182 recoveries (including 28 cases reported today); Reasi has 45 positive cases (including 05 cases reported today) with 19 active positive and 26 recovered; Poonch has 123 positive cases (including 02 cases reported today) with 23 active positive and 99 recoveries and 01 death while Doda has 77 positive cases (including 03 cases reported today) with 19 active positive cases and 57 recoveries and 1 death.

19,459 COVID-19...

one patient has migrated, according to the updated data.

The total number of confirmed cases includes foreigners. The gap between recoveries and active cases is 1,11,602 as of Monday, with the recovery rate now at 58.67 per cent, the ministry said.

A total of 12,010 COVID-19 patients have been cured since Sunday.

The graded, pre-emptive and pro-active steps taken by the government along with the states and Union territories for prevention, containment and management of COVID-19 continue to show encouraging results, it said.

India now has 1,047 diagnostic labs dedicated to COVID-19, including 760 in the government sector and 287 private labs.

The 11 labs that have been inducted since Sunday are all operated by the government.

According to the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), a cumulative total of 83,98,362 samples have been tested up to June 28, with 1,70,560 samples tested on Sunday.

Of the 380 new deaths reported, 156 are from Maharashtra, 65 from Delhi, 54 from Tamil Nadu, 19 from Gujarat, 16 from Karnataka, 12 from Andhra Pradesh, 11 from Uttar Pradesh, 10 from West Bengal, eight from Rajasthan, seven from Madhya Pradesh, five each from Haryana and Punjab, four from Telangana, three from Odisha and one fatality each was reported from Jammu and Kashmir; Assam, Goa, Uttarakhand and Bihar.

Of the total 16,475 deaths reported so far, Maharashtra tops the tally with 7,429 deaths, followed by Delhi with 2,623, Gujarat with 1,808, Tamil Nadu with 1,079, Uttar Pradesh with 660, West Bengal with 639, Madhya Pradesh with 557, Rajasthan with 399 and Telangana with 247 deaths.

The COVID-19 death toll has reached 223 in Haryana, 207 in Karnataka, 169 in Andhra Pradesh, 133 in Punjab, 94 in Jammu and Kashmir, 60 in Bihar, 38 in Uttarakhand, 22 in Kerala and 21 in Odisha.

Chhattisgarh has registered 13 deaths, Jharkhand 12, Puducherry and Assam 10 each, Himachal Pradesh nine, Chandigarh six, Goa three and Meghalaya, Tripura, Ladakh and Arunachal Pradesh have reported one fatality each, according to the health ministry.

More than 70 per cent of the deaths took place due to comorbidities, it said.

Maharashtra has reported the highest number of cases at 1,64,626, followed by Delhi at 83,077, Tamil Nadu at 82,275, Gujarat at 31,320, Uttar Pradesh at 22,147, West Bengal at 17,283 and Rajasthan at 17,271, according to the ministry data.

The number of COVID-19 cases has gone up to 14,419 in Telangana, 13,829 in Haryana, 13,241 in Andhra Pradesh, 13,190 in Karnataka, and 13,186 in Madhya Pradesh.

It has risen to 9,212 in Bihar, 7,206 in Assam, 7,093 in Jammu and Kashmir and 6,614 in Odisha. Punjab has

reported 5,216 infections so far, while Kerala has 4,189 cases.

A total of 2,823 people have been infected by the virus in Uttarakhand, 2,662 in Chhattisgarh, 2,364 in Jharkhand, 1,346 in Tripura, 1,198 in Goa ,1,185 in Manipur, 963 in Ladakh and 916 in Himachal Pradesh.

Puducherry has recorded 619 COVID-19 cases, Chandigarh 429, Nagaland 415, Arunachal Pradesh 182 and Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu together have reported 178 COVID-19 cases.

Mizoram has 148 cases, Sikkim 88 and Andaman and Nicobar Islands has registered 76 infections so far, while Meghalaya has recorded 47 cases.

"Our figures are being reconciled with the ICMR," the ministry said, adding that 7,285 cases are being reassigned to states.

State-wise distribution is subject to further verification and reconciliation, it added.

HC allows J&K...

petition. They also filed CM No.2161/2020 for vacation of the direction dated June 15, 2020 under which the respondent Bank was directed to postpone the availability of the internet link for registration of candidature by the prospective candidates for the posts of Probationary Officers and Banking Associates.

When this case was taken up for consideration on June 26, 2020, D.C Raina, Advocate General, appeared before the court pursuant to the court's request made vide order dated June 15, 2020. He submitted that the issue whether the Jammu and Kashmir Bank Limited is a State within the meaning of Article 12 of the Constitution does not arise because the Bank has been declared as a public authority in terms of the erstwhile State Administrative Council (SAC) Decision No.148/20/2018 dated November 22, 2018. He further submitted that pursuant to the aforesaid SAC decision, the Jammu and Kashmir Right to Information Act, 2009 and CVC guidelines stand applied to the Bank and it was also made accountable to the State Legislature. The Advocate General in this regard produced photocopy of a communication purported to have addressed by the Principal Secretary to Government, Finance Department, to the Chairman/CEO of the Bank informing him about these decisions of the SAC. This communication does not bear any number and date. However, the Under Secretary to Government, Finance Department, has endorsed copies thereof to the Private Secretaries to the Governor, Advisor (S) and the Chief Secretary, under endorsement No. FD/BKG/2019/13 dated February 12, 2019 which indicated the roundabout date of the aforesaid communication. Sunil Sethi, Senior Advocate, representing two respondents did not contest this position.

Justice Ali Mohammad Magrey observed that having regard to the plea of the writ petitioners that the Bank was a State within the meaning of Article 12 of the Constitution, amenable to the writ jurisdiction of this Court, and the above facts brought to the notice of the Court by the Advocate General, admitting the plea of the writ petitioners, nothing more needs to be done on the issue. Consequently, the Full Bench decision of this Court in Firdous Ahmad Tanki versus the J&K Bank Ltd., 2006(1) S. L. J. 1, is no more attracted to the Bank. The issue is, therefore, deemed to be not arising anymore and closed as such.

The Advocate General simultaneously argued that now that the Central Administrative Tribunal Act, 1985 (CAT Act) is applicable to the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, and the Bank having been declared as a Public Authority, this Court does not have the jurisdiction to entertain this writ petition. The Advocate General in this behalf referred to the Preamble and various provisions of the CAT Act, including Sections 2, 14 and 28 thereof. On this, the senior counsel for the petitioners sought time till today to argue the case on the point of jurisdiction of the Court to entertain the writ petition.

Senior Advocate Jehangir Iqbal produced a copy of Government order No.377-F of 2019 dated July 4, 2019 on the subjects of streamlining the procedure for procurement of Goods and Services and award of contracts by Public Sector Undertakings / Autonomous bodies / Societies and creation of posts and regulation of recruitment in Public Sector Undertakings / Autonomous bodies / Societies. This Government order contains certain directions to be observed by the Public Sector Undertakings / Autonomous bodies / Societies. In the last para, the communication reads, "These directions shall come into effect immediately with respect to all Public Sector Undertakings/Autonomous Bodies/Societies, including those listed in Annexure A". In the Annexure 'A' to the aforesaid Government order, J&K Bank Ltd., figures at serial no.1 of the list of Public Sector Undertaking / Autonomous Bodies / Societies. This all is referred to at this stage herein for the limited purpose to show that the J&K Bank Limited has been deemed to be a Public Sector Undertaking / Autonomous Body / Society and State within the meaning of Article 12 of the Constitution. This issue stands already concluded and settled on the statement made by the learned Advocate General on the previous date, narrated hereinabove. However, the aforesaid supporting fact brought to the notice of the Court today is recorded herein.

Justice Ali Mohammad Magrey observed that so far as the second issue raised by the Advocate General on the previous date of hearing, that since the CAT Act is applicable to the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, and the Bank having been declared as a Public Authority, this Court does not have the jurisdiction to entertain this writ petition, this Court heard the arguments in this regard in some detail. The orders in that regard are reserved.

Justice Ali Mohammad Magrey observed that the argument raised on behalf of the Advocate General does not seem to be supported by Section 14 of the CAT Act. However, the issue would be dealt with in detail in the order.

Senior Advocate Sunil Sethi appearing for the J&K Bank has strenuously pressed for disposal of CM Nos.2161/2020 and 2160/2020. These civil miscellaneous petitions have been filed by the two respondents for vacation of the direction dated June 15, 2020 issued to the respondent Bank to postpone the availability of the internet link for registration of candidature by the prospective candidates for the posts of Probationary Officers and Banking Associates.

Justice Ali Mohammad Magrey observed that in the CM so filed by the aforesaid respondents it is, inter alia, stated that the functioning of the respondent Bank is suffering for non-availability of sufficient staff on the advertised positions. It is further stated therein that in absence of such staff, the Bank is not able to provide adequate banking service to its customers, and that, resultantly loss would be caused to the customer confidence and business of the Bank.

Justice Ali Mohammad Magrey observed that the direction dated June 15, 2020 was passed by this Court with a view to securing the interests of the petitioners as well as to avoid any future inconvenience to the prospective candidates. Now the interests of the respondent Bank itself have been placed before the Court for its consideration. "This Court is of the view that interests of the Bank are of paramount importance and that delay in registration of candidature by the prospective candidates may prolong the selection process which may be injurious to the interests of the Bank. This Court would not wish the Bank to be put to any loss or injury by operation of any order of this Court. At the same time, the Court has to ensure that the writ petitioners are not non-suited" Justice Magrey observed.

"However, there is no denying the fact that the petitioners have only participated in the selection process. The law being that mere participation in the recruitment process does not

confer any right of appointment on a candidate, the Court is of the opinion that even if candidature of prospective candidates pursuant to the fresh notification dated June 1, 2020 is registered and the selection process is allowed to be completed upto a certain stage, it would not confer any right of appointment on such candidates. Whether the ultimate selection process should be completed pursuant to the earlier advertisement notification or the subsequent notification would naturally be dependent on the final decision in the writ petition", the court observed.

Unlock 2: States...

to donate their plasma.

He said the AAP government has so far conducted clinical trial of plasma therapy on 29 COVID-19 patients and the result was "encouraging".

Haryana to start Plasma Therapy for treatment of Covid-19 patients in all its medical colleges after approval from ICMR, said state Health Minister Anil Vij in a tweet.

AIIMS Director Dr Randeep Guleria recently said the number of people infected is not important as long as the mortality is low. Our aim is to work towards keeping a low mortality.

As states ramp up testing, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath directed officers to increase COVID-19 testing facilities in the state and operate available TrueNat machines at full capacity.

Use of TrueNat machines should be promoted in private hospitals, he said addressing an unlock review meeting with senior officers and ministers.

"The testing capacity for COVID-19 should be increased. Available TrueNat and rapid antigen machines should be operated at full capacity for doing maximum tests in the state," an official release said quoting the chief minister.

As part of its efforts to ramp up the testing capacity, the ICMR had approved the use of TrueNat, a diagnostic machine for tuberculosis, for conducting coronavirus tests.

Diesel price at...

the country, according to a price notification of state oil marketing companies.

In Delhi, a litre of petrol now comes for Rs 80.43 per litre as compared to Rs 80.38 earlier. Diesel rates have been increased to Rs 80.53 per litre from Rs Rs 80.40.

Rates vary from state to state depending on the incidence of local sales tax or VAT.

In Mumbai, petrol price went up from Rs 87.14 per litre to Rs 87.19, while diesel was hiked to Rs 78.83 from Rs 78.71.

While the diesel rates have been hiked for the 22nd time since June 7, petrol price has been raised on 21 occasions.

There was no change in prices on Sunday.

The cumulative increase since the oil companies started the cycle on June 7 now totals to Rs 9.17 for petrol and Rs 11.14 in diesel.

Terrorists attack Pakistan...

situated in the city's high-security commercial hub as they tried to storm it.

Armed with automatic machine guns, grenades and explosives, they tried to enter into the compound leading to the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) building through a parking lot but security forces foiled their attack within the compound itself, Deputy Superintendent of Police (South) Jamil Ahmed said.

"The militants lobbed hand grenades and opened fire initially at the compound entrance to force themselves into the compound but one of them was killed immediately and that pushed them back, he said.

Director General Rangers Sindh Major-General Omer Ahmed Bokhari, addressing a press conference in Karachi, said the attackers intended to not only enter the building but also carry out violence and hold people hostage.

"Every terrorist was armed with weapons that included AK-47s, hand grenades, rocket launchers. They were also carrying food and water, he said.

He continued, "The PSX is an important symbol of economic activity hence the objective of these militants was to increase casualties here and hold hostages."

"It was an attempt to send a message to the world that Pakistan is not safe. They wanted to damage Pakistan's economic activity and harm investors' confidence," DG Rangers said.

The police and Rangers' officials killed all the four terrorists near the entrance gates, he said. Four security guards, a police sub-inspector and two civilians were killed in the heavy exchange of fire at the PSX compound on Karachi's I.I. Chundrigar Road, also known as Pakistan's Wall Street, the police said.

The Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) linked Majeed Brigade claimed responsibility for the attack. The group is banned in Pakistan, the UK and the US.

UMEED women SHG turns entrepreneur

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Women Self-Help Group members of JK Rural Livelihoods

Mission (UMEED) in block Dansal of district Jammu resolved to form producer group for commercial activities of cleaning reagents which is need of an hour.

A self help group is defined as a "self governed, peer controlled information group of people with similar socio-economic background and having a desire to collectively perform common purpose."

As Home Hygiene and Community Hygiene are the need of the hour in the prevailing pandemic, the SHG members of block Dansal started a unit of cleaning reagents to earn as well as serve the households of the area by providing them such facilities at their doorsteps and at affordable price.

A Producer Group of 15 women deals with the unit

and it plans to further supply it to all the cluster of block for sale at grassroots level.

Inaugurating the unit, Additional Mission Director Jammu, Sham Lal on Monday said that the same ventures would also be expanded in other blocks of the division.

JKRLM (UMEED) SHG members are following five basic principles including weekly meeting at SHG level, fortnightly meetings at VO & CLF level which will help them to sell out all the stock among own members by giving them rebate of 10-20 %/ piece, he informed.

In block Dansal 7500 SHG members /households are registered under JKRLM (UMEED) which is a large platform to sell out these necessary products among them by using the formula by the Community for the Community.



Chairman, J&KPSC, B.R. Sharma administering oath of office to Subash Gupta and Sameer Bharti at Jammu office.