

Doctors' delegation meets Mathur, proposes providing telemedicine facilities in remote areas of Ladakh

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

LEHI: A Delhi-based private company of doctors on Sunday proposed providing telemedicine facilities in remote areas of Ladakh, an official spokesman said.

The proposal was submitted by a delegation of doctors led by the director of Medijunction smart healthcare private limited which called on Ladakh Lieutenant Governor R K Mathur in New Delhi, he said.

The spokesman said the delegation proposed providing telemedicine healthcare facilities along with the physical presence of medical staff in remote areas of Ladakh, including doctors and nurses.

They also discussed providing instant healthcare services at doorsteps and digital ICU (intensive care unit), he said, adding the delegation

also proposed setting up rural digital clinics, integrating various services and properly utilising doctors' time. The delegation proposed making multi-speciality doctors available in remote areas, reducing turnaround time and providing better health at a reduced cost, the spokesman said.

Mathur inquired about the offline collection of data and treatment in areas without internet connectivity.

He suggested using satellite-based internet or VSATs for providing telemedicine services in remote areas, the spokesman said, adding the LG stressed the need for providing trained staff for patients in remote areas of Ladakh.

Meanwhile, Mathur laid the foundation stone for the construction of Ladakh Bhawan

(Kargil Wing) at Dwarka in Delhi in presence of chairman, Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC) Kargil, Feroz Ahmad Khan and other senior officers.

The building will be constructed at a cost of about Rs 15 crore under the Special Development Package and the construction work will be executed by Central Public Works Department (CPWD), the spokesman said.

He said the building will have 24 rooms, four dormitories, two VIP suites, conference hall, dining hall and kitchen with modern facilities.

The Bhawan, which will be managed by LAHDC-Kargil, has been constructed for the Haj pilgrims, patients and students seeking admission in Delhi and others, the spokesman said.

Death count in Manipur landslide rises to 37, search for missing 25

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

GUWAHATI/IMPHAL: The death toll in the landslide at a railway construction site in Manipur's Noney district rose to 37 on Sunday with the recovery of three more bodies, while search operations were underway for another 25 people, an official said. Heavy rains and fresh landslides in the Tupul area since Saturday night have affected the search operations, he said. Bodies of 37 people have been found so far from under the debris. Among them are 24 Territorial Army personnel and 13 civilians, a defence spokesperson in Guwahati said. "Relentless effort to find the remaining six missing Territorial Army personnel, and 19 civilians will continue till the last individual is found," he said. The Army, Assam Rifles, Territorial Army, SDRF and National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) are part of the search operations. "The search operation is continuing despite adverse weather conditions, owing to heavy rains and fresh landslides last night," the spokesperson said. So far, 13 Territorial Army personnel and five civilians have been safely rescued. Through Wall Imaging Radar (TWIR) technology is being used to find the missing persons under the debris. A search and rescue dog has also been brought in to assist the efforts, the official said. A massive landslide hit Tupul yard railway construction camp on Wednesday night. The debris blocked the Ijoi river, creating a reservoir that threatens to inundate the low-lying areas. At present, work is underway to clear the debris to let the water flow out. Bodies of seven Territorial Army personnel were sent to their hometowns -- Kolkata and Bagdogra in West Bengal, and Agartala in Tripura -- on Sunday, the spokesperson said. Full military honours were given to them at Imphal, he said.

Russia claims capture of pivotal city in eastern Ukraine

■ AGENCY

KYIV: Russia's defence minister said Russian forces took control Sunday of the last major Ukrainian-held city in Ukraine's Luhansk province, bringing Moscow closer to its stated goal of seizing all of Ukraine's Donbas region.

Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu told President Vladimir Putin that Russia's troops together with members of a local separatist militia "have established full control over the city of Lysychansk, Russian news agencies reported.

Ukrainian fighters spent weeks trying to defend Lysychansk and to keep it from falling to Russia, as neighboring Sievierodonetsk did a week ago. A presidential adviser predicted late Saturday that the city's could be determined within days.

Ukrainian officials did not immediately provide an update on its status.

Earlier Sunday, Luhansk's governor said Russian forces were strengthening their positions in a grueling



fight to capture the last stronghold of resistance in the province.

The occupiers threw all their forces on Lysychansk. They attacked the city with incomprehensibly cruel tactics, Luhansk governor Serhiy Haidai said on the Telegram messaging app. They suffer significant losses, but stubbornly advance. They are gaining a foothold in the city.

A river separates Lysychansk from Sievierodonetsk. Oleksiy Arestovych, an adviser to the Ukrainian president, said during an online inter-

view late Saturday that Russian forces had managed for the first time to cross the river from the north, creating a threatening situation. Arestovych said they had not reached the center of the city but that the course of the fighting indicated the battle for Lysychansk would be decided by Monday. Luhansk and neighboring Donetsk are the two provinces that make up the Donbas, where Russia has focused its offensive since pulling back from northern Ukraine and the capital, Kyiv, in the spring. Pro-Russia sepa-

ratists have held portions of both eastern provinces since 2014, and Moscow recognizes all of Luhansk and Donetsk as sovereign republics. Syria's government said Wednesday that it would also recognise the independence and sovereignty of the two areas.

Taking Lysychansk would open the way for the Russians to move west into Donetsk province, where the sizable Ukrainian-held city of Sloviansk has come under rocket attacks several times since Russia invaded Ukraine on Feb. 24. Elsewhere in the war, the elected mayor of the Russia-occupied city of Melitopol said Sunday that Ukrainian rockets destroyed one of four Russian military bases in the city. The Russian Defence Ministry said Ukraine also launched missile and drone attacks in western Russia, on the cities of Kursk and Belgorod, but that the aerial weapons were shot down. Kursk regional governor Roman Starovoit said the town of Tetkino, on the Ukraine border, came under mortar fire.

The leader of neighbour-

ing Belarus, a Russian ally, claimed Saturday that Ukraine fired missiles at military targets on Belarusian territory several days ago but all were intercepted by an air defence system. President Alexander Lukashenko described the alleged strike as a provocation and noted that no Belarusian soldiers were fighting in Ukraine.

There was no immediate response from the Ukrainian military.

Belarus hosts Russian military units and was used as a staging ground for Russia's invasion. Last week, just hours before Lukashenko was to meet with Russian President Vladimir Putin, Russian long-range bombers fired missiles on Ukraine from Belarusian airspace for the first time. Lukashenko has so far resisted efforts to draw his army into the war. But during their meeting, Putin announced that Russia planned to supply Belarus with the Iskander-M missile system and reminded Lukashenko that his government depends on economic support from Russia. (AP).

Gandhi Memorial College Sgr wins overall title in Inter-college Judo championship

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The Physical Education Department of Gandhi Memorial College, Srinagar continued its winning spree in the Inter-college Judo championship by winning the overall title, bagging Two Gold, Two Silver and One Bronze medal.

The Judo championship was organised by the Directorate of Physical Education and Sports, University of Kashmir.

The concluding ceremony of the event was attended by Prof Aneesa Shafi, Dean Students

Welfare, among other dignitaries of the University of Kashmir.

In her congratulatory message, the Principal, Prof (Dr) Asmat congratulated the students who brought laurels to the institute and stressed upon them to continue their endeavours in the field of sports.

She also lauded Parvez Ahmad, Director Physical Education Department, for harnessing the potential of students interested in sports and providing the right platforms to showcase their talents.

DC directs for installation of Road Signage, Caution Boards in Kupwara

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KUPWARA: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Khalid Jahangir has issued directions for all concerned departments and executing agencies to install road signage/ caution board within the radius of 20m/ 50ms of the construction site, Ponds, Water Bodies, Fish farms immediately and also ensure proper covering/ fencing of pits/ storage tanks across the district for safety of human lives and public property.

They were also asked to make the general public residing near such places aware of the ponds/water bodies that are existing

there and shall be instructed not to allow their wards for swimming, bathing, fishing etc in these water bodies in future. The DC has also observed that due to rise in day temperatures, youngsters are taking to swimming in nallahs and irrigation tanks, and consequently incidents of drowning have seen a rise, in recent days in the district. He has directed SE Hydraulic to deploy field staff for patrolling along vulnerable points for weaning away youngsters from venturing into water bodies for swimming. He has also stressed for initiating a vigorous IEC campaign in this regard through various plat-

forms.

Tehsildars were also directed to activate Lumberdars and Chovkidars in all vulnerable villages within their jurisdictions for warding off youngsters from swimming. He has also asked for utilizing the services of PRIs for sensitising the general public against allowing youngsters to venture into water bodies.

Khalid Jahangir has also asked Chief Education Officer Kupwara to ask all ZEOs, Principals, and Headteachers to invariably do sensitization of students in schools on daily basis against swimming in water bodies.

Over 16,000 prospective parents waiting to adopt a child for past 3 years: Official data

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: More than 16,000 prospective parents have been waiting for over three years to adopt a child, with officials attributing the slowdown to availability of fewer children who are legally free for adoption.

According to data shared by officials of the Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) in response to an RTI filed by PTI, there are 28,501 prospective parents whose home study reports have been approved and are in queue for adopting a child.

Out of them, 16,155 prospective parents whose home study reports have been approved three years ago are still waiting in queue for adoption, according to the data.

As of June 28, there are 3,596 children legally free for adoption, including 1,380 with special needs.

"The average waiting period for adoption is 2-2.5 years and then there

are very few children who are legally free for adoption, making it further difficult for prospective parents to find children for adoption," a senior official said. According to official data, there are 2,971 children living in specialised adoption agencies who fall under the category of being not adoptable while there are a total of nearly 7,000 children in the specialised adoption centre.

The children falling under the non-adoptable category are those children whose biological parents have not given consent for them to be put for adoption but they are put in child care homes as the parents are unable to support and take care of their child.

If a child is over five years of age, consent from them is also needed before putting them up for adoption, another official explained.

In the last Parliament session, a parliamentary

panel has recommended that the adoption process in the country be simplified and stressed the need for a close relook at various regulations guiding the procedure of adoption. Also, last year the government amended the Juvenile Justice Act under which increased powers and responsibilities were given to district magistrates to speed up the adoption processes in the country. Earlier, adoption processes were under the purview of courts.

Child rights experts, however, believe that more is required than just simplifying the process.

Kumar Shailabh, co-director of HAQ: Centre for Child Rights, said adoptions are a very tricky process and prior to amendment to the Juvenile Justice Act there was a very firm process involving courts.

"But now the process will be looked into by district magistrates and the

district administration has several others things to do and adoption is an addition to it so the checks and balances required for adoption has become very vague and whether they have the capacity or bandwidth to check or confirm whether adoption is legal or illegal...because there have been cases of trafficking in the name of adoption...so now the problem is going to take another shape and size after the amendment," he said.

Executive Director of NGO Centre for Advocacy and Research Akhila Sivasdas said the issue is not just about simplifying the procedure, it is also about how governments deliver or implement such programmes.

"Starting from educating the public on the issue till the stage when you hand over the child to the prospective parents, the functionaries and implementers tasked with doing it should view it as

public service and will feel less burdened and discouraged by all the administrative rules if they foster community and citizen participation and involvement," she said.

Sivasdas said this alone will ensure that everyone gets sensitised on the issue and is able to approach it with an understanding of the role they are playing as a community and as prospective parents.

For adopting a child, a prospective parent has to upload their application for adoption with relevant documents on CARA's website following which a home study is conducted by a social worker.

After which, profiles of children identified as legally free for adoption are then shared by the specialised adoption agencies with the prospective parents who select a child and the matter is then looked upon by the district magistrate.

India gifts 75 ambulances, 17 school buses to Nepal

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHMANDU: India on Sunday gifted 75 ambulances and 17 school buses to Nepal as part of its ongoing efforts to build on the robust and longstanding partnership between the two countries and help the Himalayan nation bolster its infrastructure in healthcare and education sectors.

India's newly-appointed Ambassador Naveen Srivastava handed over the keys of the vehicles in the presence of Devendra Paudel, Nepal's Ministry of Education, Science and Technology.

The gifting of 75 ambulances also marks 75 years of India's Independence, the Indian Embassy here said.

The gifting of ambulances and school buses is part of the very robust and strong development partnership between the two countries, Srivastava said.

This initiative has been one of the long-standing traditions of the Indian government under the Nepal-India Development Partnership Programme to bolster efforts of the Nepal government to strengthen its infrastructure in health and education, he added.

Paudel appreciated India's various ongoing developmental projects in Nepal and said these initiatives will continue to strengthen people-to-people linkages and improve relations between the two countries.

The 75 ambulances and 17 school buses will be handed over to various governmental departments and NGOs working in healthcare and education sectors in various districts in Nepal, the Indian mission said.

In 2021, India had gifted 39 ambulances equipped with ventilators to Nepal as part of its efforts to help

Kathmandu in its fight against the COVID-19 pandemic.

Similarly, in 2020, India had gifted 41 ambulances and six school buses to Nepal on the occasion of the 151st birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

Nepal is important for India in the context of its overall strategic interests in the region, and the leaders of the two countries have often noted the age-old Roti Beti relationship.

The land-locked country relies heavily on India for the transportation of goods and services.

Nepal's access to the sea is through India, and it imports a predominant proportion of its requirements from and through India.

The India-Nepal Treaty of Peace and Friendship of 1950 forms the bedrock of the special relations between the two countries.

Active COVID cases in country rise to 1,11,711

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: India logged 16,103 new coronavirus infections taking the total tally of COVID-19 cases to 4,35,02,429, while the active cases increased to 1,11,711, according to the Union Health Ministry data updated on Sunday.

The death toll climbed to 5,25,199 with 31 new fatalities, the data updated at 8 am stated.

The active cases comprise 0.26 per cent of the total infections, while the national COVID-19 recovery rate was recorded at 98.54 per cent, the ministry said. An increase of 2,143 cases has been recorded in the active COVID-19 caseload in a span of 24 hours. The daily positivity rate was recorded at 4.27 per cent while the weekly positivity rate was 3.81 per cent, according to the ministry.

The number of people who have recuperated from the disease surged to 4,28,65,519 while the case fatality rate was recorded at 1.21 per cent.

According to the ministry, 197.95 crore doses of Covid vaccine have been administered in the country so far under the nationwide COVID-19 vaccination drive. India's COVID-19 tally had crossed the 20-lakh mark on August 7, 2020, 30 lakh on August 23, 40 lakh on September 5 and




50 lakh on September 16. It went past 60 lakh on September 28, 70 lakh on October 11, crossed 80 lakh on October 29, 90 lakh on November 20 and surpassed the one-crore mark on December 19.

The country crossed the grim milestone of two crore on May 4 and three crore on June 23 last year. It crossed four crore on January 25 this year.

The 31 new fatalities include 14 from Kerala, five from Maharashtra, three from West Bengal, two each from Delhi, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh and one each from Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Mizoram.

A total of 5,25,199 deaths have been reported so far in the country including 1,47,934 from Maharashtra, 70,037 from Kerala, 40,119 from Karnataka, 38,026 from Tamil Nadu, 26,266 from Delhi, 23,540 from Uttar Pradesh and 21,222 from West Bengal.

The ministry stressed that more than 70 per cent of the deaths occurred due to comorbidities. "Our figures are being reconciled with the Indian Council of Medical Research," the ministry said on its website, adding that state-wise distribution of figures is subject to further verification and reconciliation.

		
Tele/FAX	NO.	EMAIL ID:
TRAFFIC	POLICE	OFFICE
		CITY
		JAMMU

TRAFFIC ADVISORY DURING SHRI AMAR NATH JI YATRA-2022

Through the medium of this Traffic Advisory issued by Traffic Hqrs. J&K on 23.06.2022 in connection with Shri Amar Nath Ji Yatra 2022 is briefed as under. The general Public especially the vehicle operators visiting to Kashmir Valley other than Yatra Pilgrims moving in Convoys are advised to follow the fixed/decided timing on NHW1A :

- Movement of Light Motor Vehicles (I.e cars/taxis/passenger vehicles personal cars etc)**
 - Civilian and Non-Civilian Light Motor Vehicles (LMVs) movement from Jammu to Srinagar via NH-44 shall be released from TCP Nagrota between **0730 to 1100 hours daily**.
 - LMVs traffic from Srinagar to Jammu via NH-44 shall be released from Qazigund after **1130 AM daily**.
 - Till 2.00 PM**, LMVs traffic going in both the directions shall be redirected through Jawahar Tunnel and thereafter through Navyug Tunnel.
 - LMVs of citizens from Jammu/Kashmir Province who wish to travel outside the indicated timing for NH-44 are advised to travel via Mughal Road.
 - Tourists and Yatries are advised to travel only via NH-44 following the timings given above.
- Movement of Heavy Motor Vehicles (I.e Goods truck/Trailer/Oil tankers etc)**
 - HMVs movement through NH-44 will be on alternate days as is the current practice.
 - The Down (Srinagar to Jammu) movement of HMVs will be allowed from Qazigund towards Jammu from **2.30 to 8.30 PM only**, on alternate days.
 - Up (Jammu to Srinagar) movement of HMVs will be released from Jekhani Naka between **1600 to 2000 hours** on alternate days.
 - Vehicles carrying fresh and perishable items will be allowed to move with the HMVs only. However, priority will be given to the vehicles carrying fresh and perishable items.
 - To avoid congestion, HMVs (below 10 wheels), (including those carrying fresh & perishable items) are advised to use the Mughal Road.
- Movement of tourists and yatries in Kashmir valley**
 - Tourists and yatries are advised to travel in the Kashmir valley only during the day light hours I.e between 0700 hours to 1800 hours

Movement via Mughal Road

- Mughal road shall remain open on all the days for LMVs from **9 A.M to 12 noon** from Heerpur (Shopian) and Behramgala Poonch.
- However, HMVs (Below 10 wheels) shall be allowed on alternate days on Mughal road from **9:30 A.M** from Heerpur (Shopian) for down-convoy and from **9:30 A.M** from Behramgala for up convoy.

❖ The above timings are indicated and may be changed depending upon the weather condition, road condition and other administrative requirements. Citizen/ general public are advised to check the Daily Traffic Advisory and plan their travel accordingly.

❖ Taxi operators, Tour Operators and Hoteliers are advised to inform their clients about the above travel restrictions well in advance so as to avoid last minute difficulties.

❖ The daily traffic advisory may be accessed on Twitter (@Traffic-hqrs) and web (www.jktrafficpolice.nic.in).

❖ In addition to the above:

People especially the Vehicle Operators are requested to cooperate with the Traffic Police and Plan their travel as per the above Cut off timing . Inconvenience to general public is regretted.

For any Traffic related assistance , TCU Jammu at Tel. Nos. **0191-2459048 & 94191-47732** or nearby Traffic Police officer/official on duty may please be contacted .

Sd/-
Sr. Superintendent of Police,
Traffic City, Jammu.

DIP/J-4406/22
Dated:- 03/07/2022