

1st July 2021

Supreme Court: Kin of Covid victims entitled to compensation, frame guidelines

Observing that the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) had “failed to perform its duty”, the Supreme Court directed it to recommend guidelines within six weeks for ex gratia to family members of those who lost their lives during the Covid-19 pandemic.

“It is the statutory duty cast upon the National Authority to recommend guidelines for the minimum standards of relief to be provided to persons affected by disaster, which shall include the reliefs,” the bench of Justices Ashok Bhushan and MR Shah said in its ruling, relying on Section 12 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005.

The order came on a batch of writ petitions seeking directions to the Central and state governments to provide ex gratia compensation of Rs 4 lakh under the Disaster Management Act (DMA) to the family of each who died due to Covid-19.

While mandating guidelines to provide ex gratia, the bench declined to specify the amount of compensation to be provided.

K.V. Sampath Kumar, editor of Sudharma, world’s only Sanskrit daily, dies

KV Sampath Kumar (64), editor of the world’s only Sanskrit newspaper ‘Sudharma’ passed away in Mysuru following cardiac arrest. Sampath was awarded the prestigious Padma Shri award along with his wife Vidushi KS Jayalakshmi by the government in 2020, recognising their efforts to run the world’s only Sanskrit daily. Sampath ensured that Sudharma, founded by his father Varadaraja Iyengar in 1970, reached a widespread audience across the country. Along with his wife, he had also launched an e-paper, which has over 4,000 subscribers.

Entire Nagaland declared ‘disturbed area’ for six more months under AFSPA

The entire state of Nagaland has been declared a “disturbed area” for six more months, till December-end, under the controversial Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act which empowers security forces to conduct operations anywhere and arrest anyone without any prior warrant.

in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 3 of the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 (No. 28 of 1958), the central government, hereby, declares that whole of the state of Nagaland to be ‘disturbed area’ for a period of six months with effect from 30th June, 2021 for the purpose of the said Act,” the notification

China declared malaria-free by WHO

China was officially certified ‘malaria-free’ by the World Health Organization (WHO) on Tuesday, becoming the second country in the Asia Pacific region to get the tag, after Sri Lanka in 2016.

The Asia Pacific Leaders Malaria Alliance (APLMA), Asia Pacific Malaria Elimination Network (APMEN) and their partner The RBM Partnership welcomed China's achievement and noted the country's contributions in the fight against malaria.

Indian-origin American Abhimanyu Mishra becomes youngest ever chess Grandmaster

Indian-origin American Abhimanyu Mishra has become the youngest-ever chess Grandmaster in the world.

At 12 years, four months and 25 days, he obliterated the long-standing record held by Sergey Karjakin, who was 12 years and seven months old when he attained the title.

Srihari Nataraj became the second Indian to secure a Tokyo Olympics direct qualification last weekend.

Twenty-year-old Srihari Nataraj became the second Indian to secure a Tokyo Olympics direct qualification last weekend, with an 'A' cut of 53.77 seconds in a time trial at Rome.

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