


 Maximum : 28°C
 Today : 07:45 PM
 Minimum : 15°C
 Humidity : 42%
 SUNSET
 SUNRISE
 Tomorrow : 05:19 AM


WHO MOVES TO UPDATE COVID-19 Guidance After 'Great News' In Drug Study

The World Health Organisation (WHO) said it was moving to update its guidelines on treating people stricken with COVID-19 to reflect results of a clinical trial that showed a cheap, common steroid can help save critically-ill patients. Trial results announced on Tuesday by researchers in Britain showed dexamethasone, used since the 1960s to reduce inflammation in diseases such as arthritis, cut death rates by around a third among the most severely ill COVID-19 patients admitted to hospital. Britain has increased the amount of dexamethasone it has in stock and on order to 240,000 doses, health minister Matt Hancock said.....

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News Digest

Sagar Set Free After 10 Months

Srinagar: National Conference general secretary Ali Mohammad Sagar was on Wednesday released from a sub-jail after 10 months, officials said, a day after the Jammu and Kashmir High Court quashed his detention under the Public Safety Act (PSA). Sagar, 67, was released from a government guesthouse which has been designated as a sub-jail, the officials said here. The six-time MLA was detained in August last year after the

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Hurriyat Hails UN Report On J&K Children

Srinagar: A day after UN chief Antonio Guterres expressed concern over child casualties in Jammu and Kashmir and sought and end to the use of pellet guns, the Hurriyat Conference (M) on Wednesday said the 'atrocities' committed against children was a consequence of the lingering Kashmir dispute. Reacting to the UN Secretary-General's report on 'Children and Armed Conflict', a Hurriyat

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Minor Girl Drowns In Baramulla

Srinagar: A minor girl on Wednesday died of drowning in Rafiabad area of north Kashmir's Baramulla district. Nine-year-old Humaira Farooq slipped into a nallah near her house in Chatloora village of Rafiabad Wednesday evening, reports said. The locals instantly started a rescue operation to save the girl. However, after two hours of hectic efforts, they found unconscious state. According to the reports,

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Missing Trekker's Family Stage Protest

Srinagar: The family and relatives of Srinagar youth on Wednesday staged a protest, demanding authorities to help them in tracing their son who is missing since intervening night of June 14-15. The family members and relatives of Hilal Ahmad Dar, son of GhulamMohi-ud-din Dar of Bemina Srinagar assembled at Srinagar's press enclave, reports said. They demanded authorities to help them in tracing their beloved. The family said their beloved went missing when he

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Police Arrests 4 'Gamblers' In Raid

Srinagar: Police on Wednesday claimed to have arrested four gamblers in a raid in Zakura area of the city. Acting on an input, a police team raided a gambling site in Meerak Shah Colony near Zakura and arrested four gamblers from the spot, a police spokesperson said. He said an amount of Rs 3900 besides playing cards were recovered during the raid. The accused have been shifted to Police Station Nigean. "Accordingly, a case FIR No.106/2020 under relevant sections of law has been registered in Police Station Nigean and

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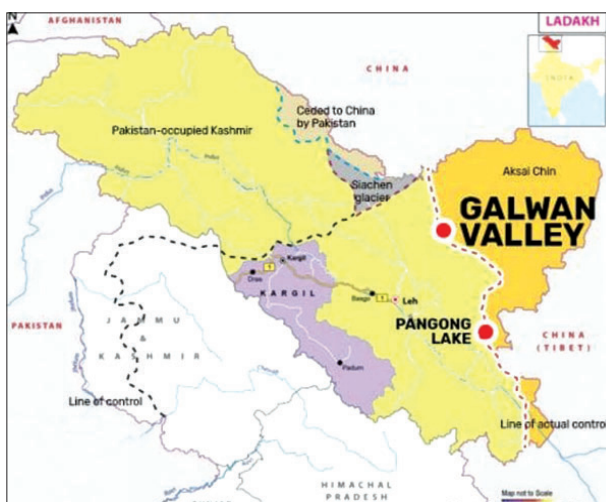
After Deadly Clash, China Lays Claim Over Galwan Valley

Press Trust Of India

BEIJING- China on Wednesday claimed that the sovereignty over the Galwan Valley area in Ladakh "always belonged to it" but underlined that Beijing does not wish to see "more clashes," after the militaries of the two countries were engaged in the biggest confrontation in over five decades.

India's External Affairs Ministry on Tuesday said the violent confrontation between armies of India and China in eastern Ladakh was the result of an attempt by the Chinese side to unilaterally change the status quo in the region.

The ministry said both sides suffered casualties that could have been avoided had the



agreement arrived earlier at the higher level been scrupulously followed by the Chinese side. At a briefing at the Chinese

Talks Between Major Generals Inconclusive: Report

Talks between Major Generals of India and China in Galwan Valley concluded on Wednesday, 17 June. The talks have remained inconclusive as no immediate disengagement or change in ground has taken place, ANI reported quoting sources. More talks will reportedly take place in the coming days. Meanwhile, the Ministry of External Affairs said

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Foreign Ministry, Spokesman Zhao Lijian said the

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ON THE SITUATION AT THE CHINA-INDIA BORDER BOTH SIDES ARE HAVING close communication with each other to resolve this through diplomatic and military channels, Zhao said.

India Moves Fighters, Warships To Forward Bases

Observer Monitoring Desk

NEW DELHI: The government has given powers to the armed forces to make emergency procurements to stock up its war reserves in the wake of escalating conflict with China along the Line of Actual Control, media reports said here on Wednesday.

Government has asked Chief of Defence Staff General Bipin Rawat to coordinate with the three services on prioritising the requirements, where necessary, The Economic Times reported.

Navy has also been given the go-ahead to deploy its assets near the Malacca Strait

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Military convoys headed to Ladakh as seen near Sonmarg. KO Photo- Abid Bhat

No Road Ahead: Reporting Galwan from Gagangeer

Auqib Javeed

GAGANGEER, Sonamarg - Wind that swept from the sweltering side of the Sind Valley created flutters, as a bunch of chary cops hawked the highway leading to Ladakh. They invoked some official orders to check the media movement towards the Galwan Valley - the confrontation zone where Indian Army and People's Liberation Army of China lately locked horns over the bloodcurdling clash.

To report the ground mood in the cold desert, a media corps from Srinagar drove towards the rugged terrains on June 17, but they were cut short at picturesque Gagangeer area and forced

to return to their bureaus.

While some waited and vainly tried numbers for intervention, a military convoy made its way towards the other side.

In times of LAC faceoff, the routine highway military movement caught everyone's attention, so did some sidewalk pickets overlooking the enthralling Sind water body.

There was, however, no death-defying in the air - until cops on duty pressed the command.

"Stopped on our way to cover an important Ladakh story, we were told by cops at Gagangeer that journalists aren't allowed beyond this point," Mir Fareed, bureau chief of Times Now told



Mediapersons reporting LAC escalation, hundreds of kilometres before, at Gagangeer. Pic Auqib Javeed

Kashmir Observer: "It was futile to even ask and argue why journalists should be stopped from discharging their duties." P-02

PM Modi Breaks Silence On Galwan Clash

Says India Wants Peace But Capable Of Giving Be fitting Reply



Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: In his first remarks on the violent face-off between the troops of India and China in Ladakh's Galwan Valley, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday said India wants peace but is capable of giving be fitting reply if instigated, and asserted that the sacrifice of our army men will not go in vain.

In his opening remarks on day

two of the virtual conference with chief ministers on the coronavirus crisis, Modi said India would not "compromise with its integrity and sovereignty" and will firmly defend its self-respect and every inch of land.

Modi's remarks came two days after the fierce clash between the troops of India and China in which at least 20 Indian Army personnel, including a colonel, were killed in the Galwan Valley in

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PM Calls All-Party Meet On Friday

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has convened an all-party virtual meet on Friday to discuss the situation along the India-China border, his office said on Wednesday. The meeting comes against the backdrop of demands by the opposition seeking details of the violent face-off between

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Heavy Mortar Shelling Along LoC In Rajouri

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: India and Pakistan troops resorted to heavy mortar shelling along the Line of Control (LoC) in Naugam sector in Rajouri district of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said Wednesday.

"On 16 June 2020, in the late evening hours, Pakistan initiated unprovoked ceasefire violation (CFV) along the LoC in Naugam Sector by firing mortars and other weapons," a defence spokesperson said.

The spokesperson said that the Indian Army gave a be fitting response to the ceasefire violation by Pak troops.

Soldier Injured In Landmine Blast

An Army man was injured in a landmine blast along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu district of Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday, official sources said. The anti-personnel mine exploded in Khour belt of Akhnor sector, they said.

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There were no casualties reported in the incident, the spokesperson added

HC Asks JK Bank To Hold Online Registration For 1850 Posts

Agencies

SRINAGAR- Jammu and Kashmir High Court has issued a notice to government over the cancellation of the selection process for filling up the posts of probationary officers and banking associates in the J&K Bank.

A bench of Justice Ali Mohammad Magrey also ordered the J&K Bank to postpone till further orders the date of availability of the link for online registration of candidature by



the prospective candidates pursuant to a fresh notification, issued on June 1 this year, for 350 probationary officers and 1500 banking associates vacancies.

The court was hearing a petition filed by as many as 288 aspiring candidates who

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2 More Die Of Covid-19, J&K Toll 65

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Two elderly men from twin districts of Shopian and Baramulla died at the hospitals here on Wednesday, taking the number of fatalities due to the disease in Jammu and Kashmir to 65, officials said.

65-year-old man from Feripora area of Shopian died of cardiopulmonary arrest at 4:15 am at SKIMS Hospital Soura, they said.

The officials said the patient was admitted to the hospital on Monday with complaints of fever and shortness of breath, and was diagnosed with acute exacerbation of chronic obstructive pulmonary disorder.

The patient was on non-invasive ventilation and his son who was attending him had given negative consent for intubation, they added.

Another death due to coronavirus

Newborn Among 108 More Test Positive

A newborn baby, six CRPF personnel, two cops and a soldier were among 108 people who tested positive for coronavirus in Jammu and Kashmir, taking the count of infected people across the Union Territory to 5406.

"108 new COVID-19 cases were detected in J&K. While 81 are from Kashmir, 27 of them are from Jammu,"

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was reported from Srinagar's SMHS hospital on Wednesday night.

70-year-old resident of Khanpora area of Baramulla died of the disease at SMHS hospital here.

Confirming it, Deputy Commissioner Baramulla Dr G N Itoo

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Modi To CMs: Need To Think About Unlock 2

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The indicators of economic performance are showing signs of revival following reduction in restrictions imposed during the coronavirus lockdown, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Wednesday as he told chief ministers to think about 'Unlock 2.0' and also ways to minimise infection.

He noted that the spread of COVID-19 is more in a few big states and cities and urged the chief ministers to make full use of their

state's existing testing capacity and also work to augment health infrastructure.

He said there was a need to "fight" rumours that the lockdown could be reimposed.

Speaking to chief ministers and representatives of 14 states and the union territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Modi said big crowds, lack of physical-distancing, daily movement of large number of people and small houses in some cities have made the battle against coronavirus "more challenging".

This was the second day of Modi's sixth round of consultations with chief ministers on fighting the COVID-19 pandemic.

Saving lives should be the top priority, he said, and called for expanding health infrastructure, according to a statement.

He underlined the need to "fight rumours of lockdown", pointing out that the country is now in the "phase of unlocking".

"We need to now think about phase 2 of Unlock and how to minimise all possibilities of

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WE NEED TO NOW THINK ABOUT PHASE 2 OF UNLOCK AND how to minimise all possibilities of harm to our people," he said according to the statement.

J&K Govt Amends Special Recruitment Rules, 2015

Probation Period Reduced To 2 Years

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir administration on Wednesday announced new rules for appointments to various posts in the union territory and reduced the probation period to two years from five years, according to a notification.

The new rules would be called as Jammu and Kashmir Probationer (Condition of Service, Pay and Allowances) and Fixation of Tenure Rules, 2020, it said.

Under these rules, after completion of probation, every appointee would be entitled to fixation of pay in the pay level

applicable to the post against which the person is appointed, the notification said.

The appointee under these rules shall be entitled to annual increment, dearness allowance, house rent allowance and city compensatory allowance or any other allowance sanctioned by the government after successful completion of the probation period, it said.

The notification said the new candidates shall be entitled to benefits under the Medical Attendance Rules and Leave Rules from the date of appointment.

It further said there

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