



Maximum : 28°C  
Minimum : 16°C  
Humidity : 43%

SUNSET  
Today 07:45 PM  
SUNRISE  
Tomorrow 05:19 AM

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CMYK

## News Digest

### CRPF Man Ends Life In Pulwama

Srinagar: A Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) man on Thursday allegedly committed suicide in Awantipora area of South Kashmir's Pulwama district. ASI Moti Ram of CRPF 178 battalion on Thursday committed suicide after finish his patrolling duty in Awantipora, officials said. CRPF PRO, Junaid Khan, said that they were investigating the circumstances due to which the paramilitary man took the harsh step to end his life. Meanwhile, police has registered a case and started further investigations in this regard.

### BSF Man 'Thrashes' Rafiabad Youth

Srinagar: A youth on Thursday was hospitalised after allegedly beaten up by a Border Security Force (BSF) man in Rafiabad area of north Kashmir's Baramulla district. According to the eyewitnesses, the incident happened when the Road Opening Party (ROP) of BSF was questioning the youth when they passed by the orchard where he was working. One of the BSF man, witnesses said hit the youth on his head following an altercation. The injured youth identified as Mohammad Rafi Ahangar was rushed to district hospital Baramulla for treatment. ● P-02

### 3 Missing Sopore Boys Traced: Police

Srinagar: Police on Thursday claimed to have traced out three youth who were missing from Sopore area of north Kashmir's Baramulla district. A police official said that the three youth identified as Adil Ahmad War of Warpora, Faheem Ahmad Wagay and Waseem Ahmad Wagay were traced by police within 18 hours after the police received missing complaint by the families. Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Sopore, Javid Iqbal said that a team was constituted ● P-02

### Canines Injure 5 Men In Pulwama

Srinagar: At least five people were injured after stray dogs went on a biting spree in south Kashmir's Pulwama district, reports said Thursday. A pack of stray dogs appeared in Prichoo area on Wednesday evening and attacked whosoever they came across, reports said. At least five people suffered injuries after bitten by the dogs. Some of the injured have been identified as Rashid Ahmad (45), Ghulam Mohammad (60) and Ghulam Mohiuddin (50). Two non-locals were also injured in canine ● P-02

### Man Falls From Tree In Kulgam, Dies

Srinagar: An elderly man died after falling from a tree in Tangmarg Manzgam area of Dambhal Hanjipora in South Kashmir's Kulgam district. Officials said that a 50-year-old man was cutting the branches of a tree when he lost his balance and fell down. He was immediately taken to a nearby hospital where he succumbed to his injuries. A police officer identified the deceased as Bahaj Khan, son of Ghazi Khan of Mohore Reasi. "A case has been registered in this regard and further investigation taken up", he said—(KNO)

### PSA Of Naeem Akhtar, Hilal Lone Revoked

Srinagar: The detention of Hilal Ahmad Lone, son of National Conference Lok Sabha MP Mohammad Akbar Lone, and PDP leader Nayeem Akhtar under the Public Safety Act was revoked on Thursday, officials said here. "The detention of Nayeem Akhtar and Hilal Ahmad Lone under the PSA has been revoked by authorities concerned," the officials said. The revocation of their detention comes two days after the Jammu and Kashmir High Court quashed the PSA detention of NC general secretary Ali Mohammad Sagar. The six-time former MLA was released on Wednesday from 10-month detention. Akhtar was among dozens of mainstream politicians taken into preventive custody last year. ● P-02

## India, China Military Talks Fail To End Deadlock

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Indian and Chinese militaries held Major General-level dialogue on Thursday for the third consecutive day on disengagement of troops as well as restoration of normalcy in Galwan Valley in eastern Ladakh, official sources said.

Galwan Valley was the site of a violent clash between Indian and Chinese troops on Monday evening that resulted in the death of a colonel and 19 other Indian Army soldiers. Around 18 Indian Army soldiers also sustained serious injuries in the clash.

The talks between the two sides near Galwan Valley ended in a stalemate on Tuesday as well as Wednesday, the sources said.

On Wednesday, the two sides discussed ways to implement the disengagement of troops from the region as agreed to during a high-level military dialogue on June 6.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday said India wants peace but is capable of giving a fitting reply if instigated.

The clash in Galwan Valley is the biggest confrontation between the two militaries after their 1967 clashes in Nathu La when India lost around 80 soldiers while the death toll on the Chinese side was over 300.

The two armies were engaged in a standoff in Galwan and several other areas of the eastern Ladakh since May 5 when the two sides clashed on the bank of the Pangong Tso.

After the standoff began, the Indian military leadership decided that Indian troops will adopt a firm approach in dealing with the aggressive posturing by the Chinese troops in all disputed ● P-02



### No Soldier Missing Since Galwan Valley Clash: Army

NEW DELHI: The Indian Army on Thursday trashed media reports claiming that a number of its soldiers went missing after the violent clashes with Chinese troops at Galwan Valley in eastern Ladakh three days back. "It is clarified that there are no Indian troops missing in action," the Army said in a statement.

There have been reports that several Indian Army soldiers were held captive by the Chinese Army following the Galwan Valley clashes in which 20 Indian Army personnel including a Colonel were killed. China has not yet released any casualty figures.

At a media briefing, External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Anurag Srivastava also said ● P-02

### China's Claim Over Galwan Valley 'Exaggerated, Untenable': MEA

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: India has trashed China's claim of sovereignty over the Galwan Valley in eastern Ladakh, the site of a violent cross-border clash, saying such "exaggerated" and "untenable" claims are contrary to the understanding reached during a high-level military dialogue on June 6.

The Chinese military on Thursday said the Galwan Valley has always been a part of China.

In a sharp reaction to the claim by China's People's Liberation Army (PLA), Spokesperson in the Ministry of External Affairs Anurag Srivastava referred to an agreement reached between Chinese and Indian militaries on "disengagement" during the Lt

### More Troops Deployed Along LAC, Navy; Air Force On High Alert

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Frontline bases of the Indian army and the air force along the nearly 3,500 km border with China were put on high alert on Wednesday in view of the worst border clash between Indian and Chinese troops in Galwan Valley that left 20 Army personnel dead and several injured, government sources said.

The Indian Navy has also been asked to raise its alert-level in the Indian Ocean Region where Chinese Navy has been making regular forays. The Indian Army has already

rushed in additional troops and weaponry to all its key frontline bases and formations along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Arunachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and Ladakh, they said.

"The rules of engagement will be different from now onwards. The prime minister has spelt out the broad policy about it," a top military official told PTI on the condition of anonymity.

Sending a strong message to China, PM Modi said India wants peace but is capable of giving a fitting reply if instigated. It was his first reaction to the violent ● P-02

### China Asks India Not To Underestimate Its Will

NEW DELHI/BEIJING: A day after Prime Minister Narendra Modi warned China against aggression, Beijing asked New Delhi not to "misjudge" the situation or "underestimate" its will. China even went a step further alleging India of breaking consensus and "deliberately provoking".

Even as China's President Xi Jinping has remained tight-lipped about the escalation of tensions between India and China, especially after the killing of 20 Indian soldiers in a violent stand-off between the two sides at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh, Beijing's spokesperson took to social media to respond to India's warning.

In a couple of tweets, Foreign Ministry spokesperson of China, Hua Chunying said, "India ● P-02

## China Disturbing Flow Of Galwan River Into Ladakh: Report

China is using bulldozers to disturb the flow of Galwan river into northeast Ladakh in further escalation of hostilities between the two neighbouring nuclear countries, NDTV reported Thursday. The report based on the high resolution satellite images procured by the English news channel indicate Chinese efforts to block or disturb the flow of the Galwan river in Northeast Ladakh, less than a kilometer from the site of the deadly clash between Indian and Chinese soldiers on June 15 in which 20 Indian officers and men were killed. The images show Chinese troops using bulldozers on their side of the LAC, the report said. It further says that the flow of the river perceptibly changes at the spot where the bulldozers are seen - from flowing blue waters to a small, muddy stream which becomes imperceptible when it crosses over to the Indian side of the LAC a short distance away. The report also says that Indian army trucks deployed in the Galwan Valley within two kilometres of the LAC can be seen parked in a mostly dry Galwan river bed. However, the images have not been put out due to security reasons. The images also indicate the depth of both the Indian and Chinese build-up in the region. ● P-02

## 7 Covid-19 Deaths In A Day Takes Toll To 72

Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR-- Jammu and Kashmir reported seven COVID-19 related deaths in the last 24 hours, taking the total number of fatalities due to coronavirus in the union territory to 72, officials said on Thursday.

While five of the deaths took place in the Kashmir valley, two people died in the Jammu region, the officials said. While four deaths took place at SMHS, another one was reported by Chest Diseases hospital here, they added.

The dead included a 65-year-old from Batamalo and 70-year-old from Budgam all of whom passed away on Wednesday night, the officials said.

They said an 80-year-old man from Nawab Bazar area of Srinagar and a 65-year-old from Shop-

ian passed away at the hospital on Thursday morning. All of these patients were COVID-19 positive and had several comorbidities like hypertension, bilateral pneumonia and ● P-02

### Srinagar Doctor In Saudi Dies of Covid-19

A 69-year-old doctor from Nishat area of Srinagar has died of covid-19 in Saudi Arabia, his family friend said on Thursday. The sexagenarian was working as senior radiologist in Saudi from last more than 35 years including the local ministry of health. "He worked in a private hospital in Saudi mostly in Jeddah and left the ministry of health some ● P-02

### 4 Policemen, Doctor Among 149 New Positives

Jammu and Kashmir on Thursday reported 149 fresh cases of coronavirus, including a doctor and four policemen, taking the number of infected people in the Union Territory to 555. Giving district wise break, official sources said that among the fresh cases 25 were reported from Budgam followed by Pulwama (21), Baramulla (20), Undhampur (16), Kathua (12), 11 ● P-02

## 2 Militants Killed In South Kashmir Encounters

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Two unidentified militants on Thursday were killed in separate encounters with government forces in the twin districts of Pulwama and Shopian in south Kashmir.

Acting on specific information about presence of militants, special operation group (SOG) of police, army and CRPF personnel cordoned off Meej locality of Pampore and started search operation, a police official said. He said the search operation turned into a gunfight after militants fired on a search party of the forces, who retaliated.

One militant has been killed, the official said, adding ● P-02

### 'Militant' Arrested From Anantnag

Security forces have apprehended a militant from Anantnag district of Jammu and Kashmir, an Army official said on Thursday. "In a joint operation, security forces apprehended terrorist Imran Nabi Dar late last night (Wednesday) near Janglat Mandi, Anantnag," the official said. He said a pistol was recovered from the arrested militant, who had joined militancy on 10 May.

### DGP Chairs High Level Meet

Jammu and Kashmir Police chief Dilbag Singh on Thursday warned that Pakistan will try to infiltrate more militants and also give impetus to violence in the Kashmir valley and elsewhere in view of the standoff between the armies of India and China in Ladakh. The Director General of Police, Jammu and Kashmir, Thursday chaired a high-level meeting of officers to review the security scenario of the union territory particularly on the borders. ● P-02

## Losing To Lowest Bidder: 'Tender' Blow To Kashmiri Unit-holders

Jyotsna Bharti

SRINAGAR: A year before Kashmir would plunge into raging protests, Mujtabha Khan had decided to return to his politically-uncertain homeland as a self-starter. It was 2015, and the MBA-degree holder knew that being a unit-holder wouldn't be easy. The move came at the cost of his promising career abroad where he could've risen to ranks by the dint of his merit and hard work. The manufacturer of steel tubular poles stood steadfast only to grow disillusioned about his decision half a decade later.

"I shouldn't have left London," Khan, struggling for words, said. "All I ever wanted after my studies

was to come back and be a job creator in my homeland."

Over the years, he took a bank loan of around Rs 2 crores to run and sustain his unit, Khan says. "But the sudden change of policies has now left me stranded and marooned. There're so many people associated with me. I don't really know what to do."

Today, Khan is one of the dejected unit-holders of the valley getting anxious over the junked Industrial Policy 2016. Among other things, the scrapped policy clearly states that the locals should be given the priority in order to grow and sustain.

"After our state became union territory, nobody is listening to us," a Kashmir-based transformer unit-



holder told Kashmir Observer. "Officials are allotting a trans-

former tender to the lowest bidder from Punjab, irrespective of being

an outsider. Such steps will kill the industries here. There're many youngsters who've come back to Kashmir to work here. What'll they do now? They've huge loans on their account to settle."

Notably, Punjab was the lowest bidder in the transformer tender recently because unit-holders there have the raw material, cheap labour costs, besides power and constant working allowance.

"But here in the valley," the unit-holder said, "we work only for a few months in a year and most of the time it is shut."

Kashmiri unit-holders, he said, can't compete with another state as "we are dependent on government tenders. Our rates aren't buyable in

## India, Pak Guns Roar In Macchil Sector

SRINAGAR: India and Pakistan troops Thursday exchanged heavy gunfire along the Line of Control (LoC) in Macchil sector of north Kashmir's Kupwara district, two days after trading fire in Tangdhar sector of the district.

"On June 18, in the afternoon hours, Pakistan initiated an unprovoked ceasefire violation (CFV) along the LoC in Macchil Sector by firing mortars and other weapons," army officials said. The officials said the Indian Army gave a befitting response to the ceasefire violation.

There were no casualties reported in the incident. Last week, a woman was killed and two other people were injured as India and Pakistan troops traded heavy gunfire in Uri sector of Baramulla district prompting district authorities to evacuate the villagers towards the safer places.

Meanwhile, a soldier was injured as India and Pakistan troops traded heavy gunfire along the LoC in Akhnor sector of Jammu, officials said Thursday.

They said that one rifleman identified as Jeevan of 8 JAKLI was injured in "unprovoked shelling" on Wednesday evening.

The injured soldier has been evacuated to Army Hospital Battalion. However, the doctors there referred him to the Military Hospital Akhnor for advanced treatment. The condition of the injured soldier is said to be stable, the official added.

## BSF Steps Up Vigil Along Pak Border

JAMMU: In view of the standoff with China in Ladakh, the BSF has strengthened the anti-infiltration grid along the 200-km International Border in Jammu and Kashmir with Pakistan too, by deploying additional personnel, bringing in better surveillance tools and taking other measures, officials said on Thursday.

They said the BSF strengthened its preparedness on the western border in Jammu and Kashmir in view of the threat of infiltration of militants from Pakistan at a time Ladakh is witnessing a standoff between India and China.

Sources in security forces said that the BSF has strengthened the anti-infiltration grid along the IB and put in place an obstacle system in hinterlands in the borderline. Apart from deployment of additional troops and high degree of technological surveillance along the borderline, the force has intensified patrolling in view of the sensitivity ● P-02

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