

News Digest

Six Feared Dead In Kishtwar Mishap

Srinagar: At least six persons are feared dead when a vehicle they were travelling in skidded off the road and fell into the Budh Nallah in Kishtwar district, officials said Thursday. An Alto car heading towards MassutehPadder fell into the Budh Nallah near Garh. They said the vehicle of the driver identified as Mulkh Raj, son of Ram Nath of GarhPadder is head Constable in Armed Police and was travelling along with five family members • P-02

Minor Dies of Snake Bite InPoonch

Poonch: A 3-year-old girl died of snakebite in Bhatidhar Mendhar area of this mountainous district on Thursday, officials said. They said the girl, SyedaKoser, daughter of Haider-Qasam, was found unconscious by the family at her home. The family immediately rushed her to the nearby government Sub District hospital Mendhar where doctors declared her brought dead on arrival. BMO Mendhar DrParvaiz Ahmed Khan said the girl died due to the snake bite. (GNS)

DGP Promotes 99 Police Personnel

Jammu: Director General of Police J&K ShriDilbag Singh on Thursday issued In-situ promotion orders in respect of 99 personnel of different ranks under different orders having lien and seniority in their respective units. Under Police Headquarters Order No.1845 of 2020 three Sub-Inspectors(M) and ten Sub-Inspectors(S) have been granted In-situ Promotion, a police spokesperson said. Vide PHQ Order No. 1844 of 2020, six head Constables, fifty-three Selection Grade Constables and four Constables have been granted In-Situ Promotion. • P-02

3 Gamblers Held In Nowhatta Raid: Police

Srinagar: Police on Thursday claimed to have arrested three gamblers in a raid in Old City of Nowhatta here. A police team carried out a raid near Sheeshbagh graveyard in Nowhatta following an input and apprehended three gamblers from

2 Militants Killed In Sopore Encounter



Gunfight

Rages In Tral

n encounter broke

out between

militants and state

forces in Chewa Ular area

of south Kashmir's Tral on

Thursday, police said.

Tral after
P-02

State forces launched a

cordon and search opera-

tion in Chewa Ular area of

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR- Two militants were killed in a pre-dawn encounter with government forces in Hardshiva area of north Kashmir's Sopore on Thursday, police said. A joint team of special operations group (SOG) of police, army's 22 RR and the personnel of CRPF 179 battalion cordoned off Hardshiva locality Sopore town after receiving 'specific' information about the presence of militants in the area, a police spokes-

person said. render offer and opened fire at the He said an encounter broke out search party of the forces. In the enafter the militants rejected the sur- suing encounter, the police **PAGE 02**

5 OGWs Arrested In Budgam: Police

- ve militant associates linked to Lashkar-e-Taiba have been arrested in Budgam district of Jammu and Kashmir, police said on Thursday.
- A police official said the five were arrested from Narbal area of the district. Incriminating documents, arms and ammunition have been seized from them. A case has been registered and an investigation is on, the official added.

LADAKH FACE-OFF **China Amassing Troops, Armaments At LAC Since Early May: MEA**

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: China has been amassing a large contingent of troops and armaments along the Line of Actual Control since early May and conduct of the Chinese forces has been in complete disregard of all mutually agreed norms, India on Thursday said holding Beijing responsible for the eastern Ladakh standoff.

At an online media briefing, External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Anurag Srivastava gave a run down of the events along the LAC in the eastern Ladakh region and held China responsible for the Galwan Valley clashes off June 15.

In early May, he said, the Chinese side took action to hinder India's "normal, traditional" patrolling pattern in the Galwan Valley area while it sought to change the status quo in other areas of the Western Sector couple in mid-May. "We had registered our protest

on the Chinese actions through both the diplomatic and military channels, and made it clear that any such change was unacceptable to us," he said.

Subsequently, senior com-manders met on June 6 and agreed on a process for de-escalation and disengagement along the LAC that involved "reciprocal actions", he said.

Srivastava said both sides had agreed to respect and abide by the LAC and not undertake any activity to alter the status quo. **PAGE 02**



An army convoy moves towards Ladakh. File photo, Abid Bhat

Onus On India To Improve Situation: Chinese Envoy

hina on Thursday renewed its allegations that Indian troops were responsible for the Galwan Valley clashes and the onus to improve the situation in eastern Ladakh was on India

'The onus is not on China. The Indian side crossed the LAC (Line of Actual Control) for provocation and attacked the Chinese border troops. The Indian forces seriously violated agreements on border issues between the • P-02

'Very Serious, Worrying Situation: British PM

ritish Prime Minister Boris Johnson has called on ndia and China to engage in dialogue to sort out their border issues as he described the escalation in eastern Ladakh as a very serious and worrying situation which the UK is closely monitoring. The first official statement of Johnson came during his weekly Prime Minister's Questions (PMQs) in the House of Commons here on Wednesday.
P-02

Unprovoked Aggression: Pompeo

S Secretary of State Mike Pompeo has said that he had a very frank discussion with his Chinese counterpart Wang Jiechi about the "unprovoked aggression" by Beijing on a number of fronts. During the meeting in Hawaii last week, Pompeo said he also pressed for "more transparency" from China on the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic for the good of the world. The meeting which was kept under wraps • P-02

Cong Seeks Parliament Session

To Discuss Situation he Congress on

Thursday demanded that the government convene a virtual session of Parliament to discuss important issues before the country, especially the border standoff with China. Congress spokesperson Pawan Khera said during the 1962 war, then BJP leader Atal Bihari Vajpayee demanded that a session of Parliament be convened
P-02

Govt Orders 7 Police Units To Tighten South Kashmir Security Grid

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir administration has ordered strengthening of the security setup in south Kashmir by establishing seven new police units and upgrading three other with the deployment of over 271 additional police personnel.

South Kashmir has become a grading the police post at Behibagh hotbed of militancy in the past few in Kulgam district to police station years and has seen large-scale recruitment by militant outfits as well posts at DK Pora and Sangam. It also ordered setting up of the as militant strikes including the five new police posts at Hillar and Pulwama attack in 2019 in which 40 CRPF personnel were killed. Dakshum in Anantnag district, "Sanction is accorded to the Hatipora and Nillow in **PAGE 02**

establishment of the office of Additional Superintendent of Police (ASP), highway, with headquarters at Qazigund in Kulgam district," an order issued by the Home department on Thursday, said.

It also gave sanction to setting up an office of Sub-Divisional Police Officer (SDPO) at Pampore. The department gave nod for up-

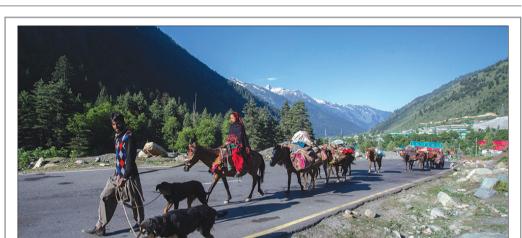
and regularisation of the police

OIC Has No Locus Standi On Kashmir: MEA

NEW DELHI: India on Thursday hit out at the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation over one of its contact groups discussing Kashmir, asserting that the grouping has no locus standi on matters strictly internal to the country.

Pakistan had on Monday urged the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) to "step up its efforts" to resolve the Kashmir issue. Pakistan Foreign Minister

Shah Mehmood Qureshi had made the remarks during a vir-



the spot, a police spokesperson said. He said an amount of Rs 12020 besides a set of playing cards were recovered from the spot. The police spokesperson identified the accused as Faroog Ahmad Masoodi of Eidgah. Farooq Ahmad Ganie and Nisar Ahmad Ganie of Narwara. • P-02

9 Patients Cured For Covid-19, Discharged

Srinagar: Nine COVID-19 patients on Thursday were discharged from SKIMS Hospital Bemina after successful completion of treatment. With this the number of COV-ID-19 recovered patient's moves to 436 out of total COVID positive admitted patients numbering 581 till date, officials said. The recovery rate at present is more than 75% and with four fatalities the mortality rate is 0.6%, they said. "The treated patients include COVID positive patients admitted for maternity care wherein till date 39 deliveries of COVID

positive pregnant ladies • P-02

tual meeting of the OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir held "on the request of Pakistan", according to the Pakistan Foreign Office. **PAGE 02**



A NOMAD FAMILY MOVING TOWARDS the green pastures of Sonmarg on Thursday. Pic Abid Bhat

3 More Covid-19 Deaths Take J&K Tally To 91

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR- Three more Covid-19 patients died in Jammu and Kashmir, taking the number of fatalities due to the disease in I&K to 91, officials said on Thursday.

While the two deaths were reported from Kashmir, one was reported from Poonch district of Jammu division.

A 65-year-old woman from Budgam died at SKIMS Soura on Thursday, the officials said.

A resident of Nasrullahpora Budgam, the sexagenarian died at 05:20 p.m. due cardiopulmonary arrest, they said

10 CRPF Men, 2 Cops Among 127 Test Positive

0 paramilitary personnel and two cops were among 127 new cases of novel coronavirus reported from Jammu and Kashmir on Thursday, raising the overall tally of positive cases across the Union Territory to 6549. "127 new Covid-19 cases were detected in J&K. While 113 of them are from Kashmir, 14 are from Jammu," the officials said. Among fresh cases, 35 cases were • P-02

"The patient was admitted on positive on June 14, they added. June 13 as Covid 19 positive pa-Earlier, two days after his tient. She was known case of HTN death and subsequent burial. the ,CKD STAGE-III, with Sheehans swab sample result of a 75-yearsyndrome," the officials said. old man from Mehjoor Nagar She was admitted through area of Srinagar returned positive emergency and then shifted to for the covid-19 on Thursday, the isolation after patient came out officials said. »PAGE 02

India, Pak Troops Trade Fire In North Kashmir

Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR: The armies of India and Pakistan on Thursday exchanged heavy gunfire along the Line of Control (LoC) in Macchil sector of the frontier Kupwara district.

Army officials said here that Pakistani troops violated ceasefire along the LoC in Macchil sector

firing mortar shells towards Indian positions.

They said the Indian Army gave a befitting response to the ceasefire violation. No casualties were reported in the incident.

Last week, five civilians, includ-"On 25 June 2020, Pakistan initiing two minors were injured in cross-LoC shelling in Uri >> PAGE 02 ated an unprovoked ceasefire viola-



of union territory of Jammu and Kashmir on Thursday evacuated 204 J&K residents stranded in Pakistan due to lockdown enforced in both the countries in view of Corona-virus pandemic.

204 J&K Residents

Return From Pakistan

Preeti Sharma, Manager J&K House. Amritsar, who is also nodal officer for evacuation of I&K residents stranded in Pakistan, said that 204 J&K residents were evacuated on first day of the evacuation process.

She said all the J&K residents were received in Amritsar at Wagah border under a very smooth atmosphere. She said all the J&K residents were • P-02

Ex BJP Mantri Lal Singh Under CBI Radar

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The CBI has registered such land comes under exempted a Preliminary Enquiry (PE) to probe category under JK Agrarian Reforms allegations of land grabbing and cor- Act were used in its purchase by the ruption by an educational trust run educational trust, the officials said. by ex-Jammu and Kashmir minister Choudhary Lal Singh, who had quit BJP following a row over the rape and murder of an 8-year-old girl in Kathua, officials said on Thursday.

The officials said that PE has been registered against R B Educational Trust of Kathua and unknown public servants to probe of ceiling prescribed under Jammu the allegations of illegal gratification and extraneous consideration by the revenue and forest officials of district Kathua in allowing sale and purchase of forest land.

According to the CBI's PE, it is alleged that false certificates that Singh, when contacted, refused to

comment on the developments. The preliminary enquiry by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) alleges that the trust, a beneficiary of such alleged illegal acts, continues to be in possession of huge tracts of land in gross violation and Kashmir Agrarian Reforms Act,

1976, they said. It also alleged that false information was submitted in the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir >> PAGE 02

Ex-JK Bank Chairman Challenges Zubair's Appointment

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: Former JK Bank chairman Pervez Ahmad Nengroo on Thursday filed an amended petition in the Jammu and Kashmir High Court challenging the appointment of Zubair Iqbal as the first managing director of the lender

A bench of Justice Sanjay Dhar after hearing Negroo's counsel R A Jan and Senior Additional Advocate General B A Dar accepted the amended petition of the former JK Bank chairman.

Nengroo had filed an application before the court seeking amend- and CEO of the JK Bank.



ment to his writ petition challeng-Through the application, he sought leave of the court to ining his removal as the chairman clude a prayer in his **>> PAGE 02**

Pak Not In Favour Of **Escalating Tensions With India**

Press Trust Of India

tion (CFV) along the LoC in Macchil

sector by firing mortars," the offi-

There has been a sharp increase

in cross-LoC shelling in Jammu and

Kashmir past two weeks.

cials said

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan on Thursday said it was not in favour of escalating tensions with India, days after it told Islamabad to reduce the staff in its high commission in New Delhi by half.

The Ministry of External Affairs said on Tuesday the Charge d'Affaires of Pakistan High Commission was summoned and informed about the decision which was based on instances of involvement of Pakistani officials in "acts of espionage' and "dealings with terrorist organisations".

The activities of the two Pakistani mission officials caught red-handed and expelled on May 31 this year was one example, the MEA said in a statement.

India would "reciprocally reduce its own presence in Islamabad to the same proportion. This decision, which is to be implemented in seven days, was conveyed to the Pakistani Charge d'Affaires," the statement said.

Pakistan Foreign Office spokesperson Aisha Farooqui told the media that India's move to reduce the Pakistani High Commission's staff strength by 50 per cent was a part of its desperate attempts to divert attention from Kashmir.

"Pakistan has no desire to escalate the situation. We have always reacted with restraint. However, violation of diplomatic norms by Indian officials in Islamabad and India's continued belligerent attitude is a threat to regional peace and security," she said. **PAGE 02**

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