



Maximum : 29°C
Minum : 17°C
Humidity : 54%

SUNSET
Today 07:46 PM
SUNRISE
Tomorrow 05:21 AM



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 Halder-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 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 Farooq 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 Bermana after successful completion of treatment. With this the number of COVID-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

2 Militants Killed In Sopore Encounter



File Pic, Abid Bhat

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 spokesperson said.

He said an encounter broke out after the militants rejected the sur-

Gunfight Rages In Tral

An encounter broke out between militants and state forces in Chewa Ular area of south Kashmir's Tral on Thursday, police said. State forces launched a cordon and search operation in Chewa Ular area of Tral after ● P-02

render offer and opened fire at the search party of the forces. In the ensuing encounter, the police ● PAGE 02

5 OGWs Arrested In Budgam: Police

Five 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.

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 hotbed of militancy in the past few years and has seen large-scale recruitment by militant outfits as well as militant strikes including the Pulwama attack in 2019 in which 40 CRPF personnel were killed. "Sanction is accorded to the

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 upgrading the police post at Behibagh in Kulgam district to police station and regularisation of the police posts at DK Pora and Sangam.

It also ordered setting up of the five new police posts at Hillar and Dakshum in Anantnag district, Hatipora and Nillow in ● PAGE 02

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 virtual 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

India, Pak Troops Trade Fire In North Kashmir

Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR: The armies of India and Pakistani troops violated ceasefire 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.

"On 25 June 2020, Pakistan initiated an unprovoked ceasefire viola-



File Pic

tion (CFV) along the LoC in Macchil sector by firing mortars," the officials said.

There has been a sharp increase in cross-LoC shelling in Jammu and Kashmir past two weeks.

Last week, five civilians, including two minors were injured in cross-LoC shelling in Uri ● PAGE 02

204 J&K Residents Return From Pakistan

SRINAGAR: The administration 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.

Preeti Sharma, Manager J&K House, Amritsar, who is also nodal officer for evacuation of J&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 a Preliminary Enquiry (PE) to probe allegations of land grabbing and corruption by an educational trust run 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 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 such land comes under exempted category under JK Agrarian Reforms Act were used in its purchase by the educational trust, the officials said.

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 of ceiling prescribed under Jammu 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 Nengroo'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-



ment to his writ petition challenging his removal as the chairman and CEO of the JK Bank.

Through the application, he sought leave of the court to include a prayer in his ● PAGE 02

Pak Not In Favour Of Escalating Tensions With India

Press Trust Of India

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