



Maximum : 33°C SUNSET
Today 07:43 PM
Minimum : 17°C SUNRISE
Humidity : 40% Tomorrow 05:30 AM



News Digest

Section 144 Imposed In Budgam

Budgam: Authorities in Central Kashmir's Budgam district imposed restrictions under section 144. The prohibitory order has been implemented in wake of surge in Covid-19 cases.

Eyewitnesses said that police vehicles were seen making announcements, informing people that section 144 has been imposed in the district. Shopkeepers were asked to close their shops in wake of the imposition of the prohibitory order.

When contacted, a district administration official said the prevailing health situation due to Covid-19 has given rise to **P-02**

Boy 'Mistakenly' Consuming 'Poison', Dies

Shopian: A minor died after he "mistakenly" consumed some poisonous substance inside his home in Feeripora area of south Kashmir's Shopian district on Monday afternoon.

A police official said that a minor boy identified as Zahid Yousuf Mantoo son of Mohammad Yousuf, a resident of Feeripora Motaj consumed some poisonous substance mistakenly. He said that though the boy was rushed to district hospital Kulgam, he succumbed at the hospital. "We have registered **P-02**

CASO Launched In Srinagar Area

Srinagar: Government Forces Monday launched a cordon-and-search operation in Habakadal area of Srinagar city.

Sources said that combined forces launched a cordon-and-search operation Zaindar Mohalla of Haba Kadal area. The sudden operation launched in congested area surprised people. Sources said the operation was launched following the inputs about the movement of suspected militants in the area. A police official said that **P-02**

Abandoned Drone Recovered In Jammu

Jammu: Police on Monday morning recovered an abandoned drone from the fields in Boothai Chak village located on the outskirts of Jammu city. Police officials said that locals spotted some suspicious object lying in fields in Boothai Chak village which falls under the jurisdiction of Phalian Mandal police post of Jammu. "Locals informed the police following which a police team rushed to the spot and took the object in their possession," they said. However later, during investigation, it came to fore that **P-02**

Man Injured In Bear Attack In Ganderbal

Ganderbal: A 50-year-old man was injured in a bear attack in Cherwan area of Kangan in Central Kashmir's Ganderbal district on Monday morning. An official said that a man identified as Abdul Rasheed Tenda, son of Shams-u-din Tenda of Thune Kangan was attacked by a black bear near an orchard in the upper-belt of Cherwan, leaving him severely wounded. In the attack, Rasheed suffered serious head injuries and was taken to Sub-District Hospital Kangan where from doctors referred him to SKIMS Soura for advanced treatment—

First Time Since 1947, Martyrs' Day Observed Sans Govt

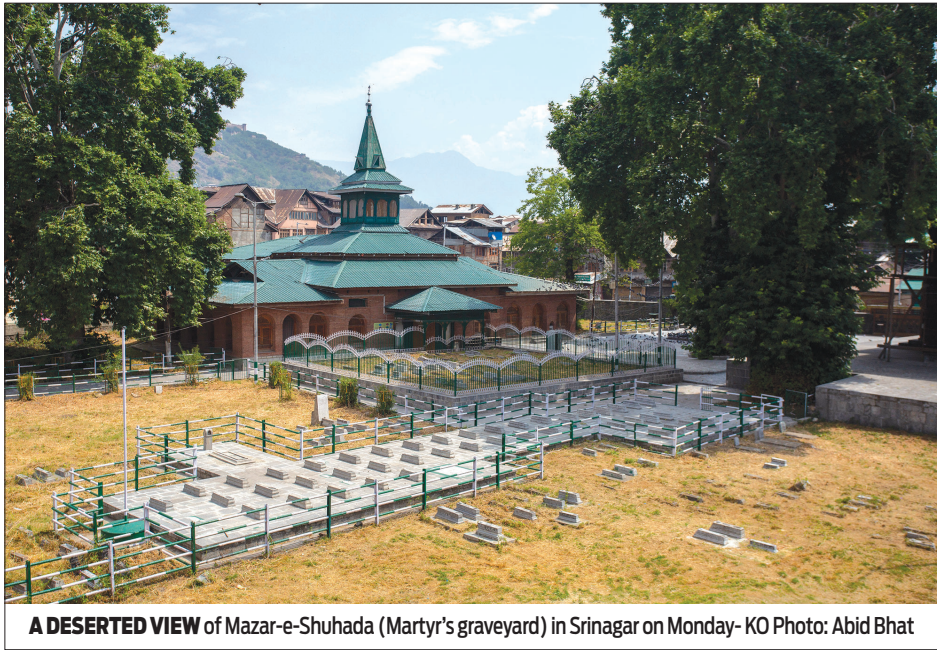
Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: For the first time since 1948, there was no holiday and official function to commemorate the annual Martyrs' Day in Jammu and Kashmir on Monday.

In a break from past, there was no function at the Martyrs' graveyard here after the government dropped July 13 from the list of gazetted holidays last year following the abrogation of special status of the state now turned into a union territory.

Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah, the then prime minister of Jammu and Kashmir, had declared July 13 as a holiday in 1948.

Apart from the official function at the Martyrs' graveyard situated in the lawns of Sufi shrine of Bahaudin Naqshband, unionist political leaders used to pay floral tributes at the resting place of 22 Kashmiris who were killed in Dogra army's firing while protesting the autocratic rule of Mahara-



A DESERTED VIEW of Mazar-e-Shuhada (Martyr's graveyard) in Srinagar on Monday- KO Photo: Abid Bhat

ja Hari Singh on this day in 1931. However none of the political leaders visited the graveyard on

Monday in view of the strict restrictions imposed in most parts of Kashmir to contain the spread

of coronavirus infection. The Shrine area in Khojabazar was sealed off and its **PAGE 02**

“PUTTING CURBS ON THE VISIT OF POLITICAL PARTIES TO MARTYRS' GRAVEYARD for paying homage to our heroes who laid down their precious lives against autocracy and oppression is unjustifiable,” Bukhari said in a statement.

Patient Declared Covid-19 Positive 6 Days After Death

Scores Of Women Waived Over The Body For Entire Night, Hundreds Participated In Funeral

PULWAMA: In what appears to be sheer negligence, a patient from Pulwama district of South Kashmir was declared Covid-19 positive six days after his death at SKIMS Soura.

Muhammad Ashraf Mir son of Muhammad Munavar Mir, resident of Nikloora village of Litter, Tehsil in Pulwama district who died at SKIMS last Wednesday, was declared positive for Covid-19 today after a gap of six days, a local news gathering agency KNO reported.

The relatives of deceased said that after Mir complained of breathless-

ness, they took him to GMC Anantnag, where his sample was taken and after few days he was referred to SKIMS, Soura where his another sample was taken for Covid-19 testing.

They said on Wednesday, SKIMS authorities asked them to wait till his report comes. "However, they asked us take the body saying that the deceased was negative for Covid," the family members of Mir claimed.

On Wednesday evening, Mir's body reached home and on Thursday morning he was laid to rest in his native village. "Hundreds of his relatives and neighbours **PAGE 02**

PHQ Sealed After Police Officer Tests Positive

SRINAGAR: A massive sanitisation drive was undertaken at Police headquarters Srinagar after a police officer tested positive to Covid-19 on Monday, reports said. Police said that the test samples taken of an officer came positive today following which a massive sanitisation drive was launched at the PHQ located in Hyderpora area of Srinagar.

He said all the officials including the officers have been asked to come out from the headquarters so that the massive sanitisation process will be started.

Meanwhile, officials said senior officers have been advised



File Pic

to avoid attending office for a few days as a precautionary measure. "The reports that PHQ has been completely closed are not true. It's a central office and can't be shut fully," an official said.

LG E-Inaugurates 10 Power Projects

Power Curtailment In Kashmir To Reduce By 6-8 Hours During Winter Season

SRINAGAR: In a major boost to the power sector in Kashmir, Lieutenant Governor, Girish Chandra Murmu today e-inaugurated 10 power projects worth Rs 19.51 cr for Districts- Srinagar, Shopian, Anantnag, Budgam and Kulgam and laid foundation stones for 07 others costing Rs 30.35 cr for Srinagar, Pulwama, Anantnag and Baramulla districts of Kashmir.

This is in addition to the two projects viz Augmentation of

33/11 KV Receiving Station Yari-pora from 2x6.3 MVA to 2x10 MVA, Kulgam and Construction of 6.3 MVA Receiving Station, Batagund (Gulbagh), Trial, Pulwama costing Rs. 2.40 cr and Rs. 3.13 cr respectively, which were recently inaugurated by the Lt Governor during his tour to the said Districts, thus taking the total of newly commissioned power projects to 12 at the cost of Rs 25 cr.

Sh. Baseer Ahmad Khan, Advisor

to the Lieutenant Governor; Sh. BVR Subrahmanyam, Chief Secretary; Sh. Rohit Kansal, Principal Secretary, Power Development Department, Sh. Mohammad Aijaz Asad, Managing Director, KPDC, Chief Engineers and other senior officers were present on the occasion.

The Lt Governor observed that with the commissioning of new projects sanctioned under PMDP, IPDS, DDUGJY and languishing projects being implemented **PAGE 02**

PRINCIPAL SECRETARY, POWER DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, Rohit Kansal informed that the newly inaugurated projects will benefit around 35,000 households across Kashmir.

Minor Drowns While Fishing in Dal

SRINAGAR: A minor drowned after he fell down while fishing in Dal Lake near Dalgate area here on Monday.

Official sources said that soon after the boy drowned, some locals immediately retrieved him even as the police party rushed to the spot. Later the boy was taken to SMHS hospital but was declared brought dead on arrival by the doctors there. He has been identified as Ayan Ahmad Sofi (9) son of Abdul Majeed Sofi of Khaniyar. A police official said that boy seems to have fallen due to giddiness.



40 Foreign, 17 Local Militants Active In North Kashmir: Police



SRINAGAR: Police Monday said that there were 35-40 foreign militants active in parts of north Kashmir.

Deputy Inspector General (DIG) of Police North Kashmir zone Mohammad Suleiman Chowdhary disclosing this on Monday said that 16 to 17 of the active militants were locals.

Addressing media persons in Sopore DIG said there are fluctuating reports about active militant operatives in northern Kashmir but as per the reports available at present, nearly 35 to 40 foreign militants are

active in northern districts besides 16 or 17 local militants.

He said foreign militants who are active in parts of north Kashmir may have infiltrated in last couple of months from across LOC.

Meanwhile 5 sector commander of Army, Vivek Narang, who was accompanying the DIG north Kashmir, said that "many of the infiltration attempts have been foiled by the forces along LoC. At present, some 250-300 militants are ready on launch pads to infiltrate but we are ready to foil any design."

SC Refuses To Entertain Plea For Covid Restrictions On Amarnath Yatra

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI- The Supreme Court on Monday refused to entertain a plea seeking restrictions on devotees in the Amarnath Yatra pilgrimage this year due to COVID-19 pandemic, saying the issue has to be left with the local administration to look into.

"We have to respect principle of separation of powers," said a bench comprising justices D Y Chandrachud, Indu Malhotra and K J Joseph and declined to enter the arena of the executive which has to deal with it as per statutory norms.

"We are of view that recourse being taken here under Article



File Photo: Abid Bhat

32(of the Constitution) is inappropriate. The issue as to whether Yatra be held should be left with the local administration. Undoubtedly any decision arrived at must be based on law and all relevant

statutory provisions", the bench, which conducted the hearing through video conferencing, noted in the order.

The apex court was hearing a plea filed by 'Shri Amarnath **PAGE 02**

Real Ayodhya In Nepal, Lord Ram Not Indian: Nepal PM Oli

KATHMANDU: After claiming Indian territory in the Lipulekh-Kalapani area, Nepal PM KP Sharma Oli, on Monday, claimed that Lord Rama belongs to Nepal, not India. Nepalese media quoted Oli as saying that 'real Ayodhya' is in Nepal and 'Lord Ram is Nepali, not Indian'.

"We have been oppressed a bit culturally. Facts have encroached. We still believe that we gave Sita to Indian Prince Ram. But we gave to the prince from Ayodhya, not India. Ayodhya is a village a little west to Birgunj, not the Ayodhya created now (sic)," Oli said at an event at his official residence in Baluwatar.

Oli was addressing a program to mark the birth anniversary of Bhanubhakta Acharya.

The stunning claim comes on the



backdrop of an ongoing diplomatic tussle between Kathmandu and New Delhi over the newly published Nepal map which claims Indian territory as its own.

Bilateral ties between India-Nepal were stressed after Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated an 80-km-long road connecting Lipulekh pass with Dharchula in Uttarakhand on May 8. Kathmandu reacted sharply to the **PAGE 02**