



Maximum : 25°C SUNSET Today 05:50 PM Minimum : 07°C SUNRISE Tomorrow 06:40 AM Humidity : 36%

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News Digest

3.6 Magnitude Quake Hits Ladakh

Leh: An earthquake with a magnitude of 3.6 struck Ladakh at 4:44 am on Monday, the National Centre for Seismology (NCS) said. The earthquake hit 110 kilometres north-north-west (NNW) of Kargil at a depth of 10 kilometres, the NCS said. No casualties have been reported. Further details are awaited.

KPC Flays Locking Of KNS Office

Srinagar: Kashmir Press Club has flayed the locking of quarter housing Kashmir News Service (KNS) office describing it 'unfortunate'. In a statement issued here, the Kashmir Press Club said, "It is unfortunate the manner in which KNS has been asked to vacate the premises. Proper notice should have been served and enough time should have been given to them. Suddenly making a functional newsroom go through such a situation is not right", the statement said.

Man Held Over Fake Whatsapp DP

Srinagar: Police on Monday arrested an insurance agent from north Kashmir's Kupwara district for presenting himself as a police officer in his WhatsApp Display Picture (DP). Showkat Ahmed Peer, a resident of Dragmulla had uploaded his photograph donning police uniform on WhatsApp, news agency KNT quoted a police official as saying. The accused, he said was using this photograph as DP to 'befool' and 'threat' others and thus was maligning the image of police. Peer, he said was working as an insurance agent in a private company. He said that the accused has been arrested and a case has been registered against him under relevant sections of the law.

Case Filed Over Khayam Firing Rumour

Srinagar: Police on Monday filed a case against unknown persons for circulating fake news about a firing incident in Khayam area of this capital city on Sunday. In a statement issued here, a police spokesperson said that taking cognizance about fake news claiming that a firing incident had taken place in Khayam area on Sunday, Police Station Khanyar by taking legal action has registered a formal case FIR No. 77/2020 against persons involved in spreading this fake news on social media platforms and misleading the public. The fake news, the police P-02

5 Gamblers Held In City: Police

Srinagar: Police on Monday claimed to have arrested five gamblers in a raid in Rainawari area of the city. Acting on an input, a police team carried out a raid in Mughal Mohalla of Rainawari and arrested five gamblers from the spot, a police spokesperson said. He said besides playing cards, an amount of Rs 19,000 was recovered from the alleged gamblers. "They have been arrested and shifted to PS Rainawari where they remain in custody. Accordingly, a case FIR No. 49/2020 under relevant sections of law has been registered in Police Station Rainawari and investigation has been initiated," the P-02

ED Grills Farooq Abdullah For 6 Hours In JKCA Scam

NC Says BJP 'Using Agencies', People's Alliance Cries 'Political Vendetta'



'Struggle For Special Status Restoration Will Continue'

After being questioned for several hours by the Enforcement Directorate on Monday in connection with a money laundering probe, NC president Farooq Abdullah said the resolve for restoration of the special status of Jammu and Kashmir will continue. P-02

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: The Enforcement Directorate on Monday questioned National Conference president Farooq Abdullah for over six hours in connection with a multi-crore scam in the Jammu and Kashmir Cricket Association, prompting accusations of "political vendetta"

by the newly-formed People's Alliance comprising several mainstream parties.

The 82-year-old former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister received the ED summons a day after the formation of the People's Alliance led by him was announced on October 15. He was questioned at the agency's regional office here in the case

connected to the embezzlement of more than Rs 40 crore of JKCA funds during his tenure as president of the association.

The CBI has already filed a chargesheet against him and the ED is probing the money laundering angle in the case.

Emerging from the ED office after the questioning, Abdullah told reporters that courts PAGE 02

Army Nabs Chinese Soldier In Ladakh

NEW DELHI: A Chinese soldier was apprehended by the Indian Army in the Demchok sector of Eastern Ladakh on Monday after he had "strayed" across the Line of Actual Control (LAC), an incident that comes amid a massive deployment of troops by the two militaries in the region following the border standoff.

The Indian Army said the soldier, a Corporal in the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA), has been identified as Wang Ya Long and he will be returned to the Chinese military at the Chushul-Moldo border point after completion of formalities. Government sources P-02

BOSE To Clear Exam 'Confusion' Within A Week

SRINAGAR: Amid confusion over preponing of 10th and 12th standard examinations, authorities on Monday said Jammu and Board of School Education (BOSE) will clarify the matter within a week's time.

BOSE chairman Veena Pandita said that no official decision or announcement was made as on date. The BOSE official also said that it will clear all confusions pertaining to annual secondary school examinations including the 11th standard as well. With regard to preponing of 10th and 12th standard P-02

Police Officer Shot Dead In Anantnag

SRINAGAR: Suspected militants on Monday shot dead a police officer in Bijbehara area of south Kashmir's Anantnag district.

Around 6:30 pm Monday, Inspector Mohammad Ashraf Bhat was returning home after offering prayers at a mosque in Kanelwan area of the district when suspected militants opened fire upon him, a police official said. Bhat, who was critically injured in the attack, he said was removed to sub-district hospital Bijbehara, where doctors declared him brought dead.

Bhat was presently posted at Police Training Centre in Lethpora in Pulwama district.

Soon after the incident, the government forces reached the spot and launched a cordon and search operation to nab the attackers.

Meanwhile, police have registered a case and started further investigations in this regard.

A police spokesperson said that IGP Kashmir Shri Vijay Kumar led a wreath laying ceremony at the District Police Lines Anantnag to pay honour and respect to the slain police officer.

Militant Killed In Anantnag Encounter: Police

CRPF Personal Injured In Pulwama Shootout

An unidentified militant has been killed in the ongoing encounter that broke out in Melhora area of south Kashmir's district on Monday, police said. P-02

10 More Covid-19 Deaths In J&K Take Toll To 1391

Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR: At least ten more people succumbed to coronavirus in Jammu and Kashmir on Monday, taking the number of fatalities since the outbreak of pandemic in the Union Territory to 1391. While Kashmir valley reported seven more Covid-19 deaths, PAGE 02

427 More People Test Positive

Jammu and Kashmir reported on Monday 427 fresh cases of coronavirus, including twenty one travelers, taking the total number of people P-02



The Estates Department on Monday locked Kashmir Times Srinagar bureau housed in a Govt quarter at the Press Enclave. According to the management no due process of cancellation & eviction was followed.

BJP Woos Voters With 5000 Jobs; Smart Cities

Leh: Three days ahead of the crucial polls for the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC) in Ladakh, union minister of State for Home G K Reddy Monday offered a series of sops for the cold desert that includes 7500 MW power projects and 5000 jobs for the youth.

He also slammed Pakistan and China for interfering into the India's internal affairs stating that no foreign country has any locus standi to intervene into the internal affairs of India and that not an inch will be given away from Ladakh or any part of J&K to anyone.

Addressing a press conference at Leh, Reddy said that Ladakh has a huge potential for power generation and Government of India has identified projects that will generate 7500 MWs of electricity for the Union Territory.

"The power projects will serve the local population and will help farmers, industries," Reddy said, while urging the LAHDC voters to support BJP candidates stating that "We gave UT status to Ladakh to take it to the new heights of development that include, power, telecommunication, road, air connectivity along with education and health connectivity. All these sectors are being upgraded."

The MoS said that Ladakh has great potential to serve as a best tourist destination. "We are exploring Ladakh's tourist potential in a best way to boost its economy," he said.

Reddy announced 5000 jobs for the youth stating that apart PAGE 02

Govt Not Imposing Property Tax In J&K: LG

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: A week after government of India amended two municipal laws of Jammu and Kashmir to empower administration to levy and collect property tax; Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said on Monday that his government will not thrust property tax on any person in the Union Territory.

"Speculations are rife that property tax will be imposed on the people of Jammu and

Cong Protests 'Tax Terrorism'

The Jammu and Kashmir Congress on Monday staged a protest against the Centre's decision to impose property tax in the union territory and demanded its P-02

Kashmir. I am telling this gathering that UT administration will not thrust property tax on any person, PAGE 02

ACB Files Charges Against Corrupt Engineer

SRINAGAR: The Anti-Corruption Bureau on Monday filed a charge sheet against a junior engineer PHE in a disproportionate asset case registered against him eight years ago.

According to an ACB spokesperson, charge sheet was produced before the Court of Special Judge Anticorruption Srinagar under section 5(1) (e) r/w 5(2) J&K Prevention of Corruption Act Samvat 2006 against Bashir Ahmad Bhat of Noorpora Tral presently residing in Hyderabad Srinagar, the then Junior Engineer, PHE Division Shopian in a case registered against him in 2012 by PAGE 02

CANCER SOCIETY OF KASHMIR advertisement with logo, contact info, and election notice details.

In FOCUS Kashmir Witnessing Growing Trekking Footfall In Fall

Swati Joshi

Saddam Hussain, founder of Mountain and Dreams, a trekking company, has just completed the Tarsar-Marsar Trek with 19 trekkers.

The trekkers, he said, belonged to different parts of India, majorly from metropolitan cities of Mumbai, Kolkata and Delhi.

Despite Kashmir witnessing less number of tourists during the Covid-plagued season, the growing hiker footfall has come as a relief for travel agents, trekking companies and houseboat owners.

These tourism players have been



reeling under the financial burden due After the onset of the pandemic, to back to back lockdowns in the valley. Hussain's Mountain and Dreams re-

cently organized its first trekking event in Kashmir.

"Many precautions were taken during the treks without causing any trouble to the hikers," Hussain said. People were quite skeptical about traveling but when they came for the treks, their fear was gone, he said.

Hussain is again going for a trek on November 2 for which his batch is almost full.

"The government should've opened tourism a bit early so that we could've benefited more from it," he said.

With just one month left for trekking season in Kashmir, Hussain is getting many calls from people to book beyond the October PAGE 02