

Maximum: 6º Today 05:24 PM Minmum: -7° Humidity:75%





P6 LIFE & TIMES

TALIBAN KILLS 13 POLICEMEN IN ATTACKS ON TWO CHECKPOINTS

At least 13 Afghan policemen were killed when Taliban militants attacked two checkpoints overnight in the north of the



THE OPPOSITION **CHALLENGE IN PAKISTAN**

The verbal fireworks and street power un-leashed by Pakistan's opposition alliance has put Prime Minister Imran Khan's crisisprone government ..



P8 OBSERVER OUTPOST

RESPECT HER SENTIMENT: INDIA ON SHEIKH HASINA'S COMMENTS ON PAKISTAN

India on Thursday appeared to endorse Bangladesh Prime Minister.



Gulmarq Shivers At



"Don't be afraid of the shadows, that only means there's a light nearby." —Evanescence



Security Guard Held For Stealing ATM Cash

SRINAGAR: Police on Friday claimed to have solved an ATM theft case by recovering the stolen cash from a security guard in Bemina area of the city outskirts.

On November 27, the Branch Manager J&K Bank Khumani Chowk Bemina reported to police that an amount of over Rs 9 lakh was missing from the ATM, a police spokesperson said. Accordingly, police filed a case FIR No. 258/2020 U/S 380 IPC Police Station Parimpora and took up investigations in this case. More On P2

3 Held For Selling **Stolen Cars: Police**

SRINAGAR: Police on Friday claimed to have busted a gang of car lifters by arresting three + persons from Awantipora area of south Kashmir's Pulwama district, involved in selling stolen vehicles in Valley.

Police received information that some persons are involved in selling cars at quite cheaper rates than actual price by way of luring customers, a police spokesperson said in a statement issued here Friday. More On P2

Editor Daily Uqab Bereaved

SRINAGAR: Ghulam Mustafa Shah, resident of Braine, Nishat passed away here on Friday after brief illness. He was 70.

Shah was elder brother of Manzur Anium, Editor-in-Chief of daily Ugab and Vice President of the Kashmir Editors Guild.

Kashmir Editors Guild has expressed condolences with Manzoor Anjum at the demise of Ghulam Mustafa Shah.

Two Booked For 'Manhandling' **KPDCL Team**

SRINAGAR: Two people have been booked by police for allegedly manhandling an inspection team of Kashmir Power Development Corporation Limited (KP-DCL) officials in Chanpora area of the city, reports said Friday.

After receiving complaints of power theft, a team of KPDCL officials headed by the Junior Engineers on December 15 went to the spot inspection in Khan Colony, Chanpora where they came under attack, an official said. The team, he said, was manhandled and abused by the 'miscreants' who were actively involved in power theft by means of directly tapping to the LT service lines which are in close proximity to their residence.

Woman Killed In **Pulwama Accident**

SRINAGAR: A woman was killed and another injured on Friday after the vehicle they were travelling in met with an accident in Kandizal area of South Kashmir's

Pulwama district. An Innova vehicle (JK02AF-8071) met with an accident in Kandizal area of Pulwama leaving a woman identified as Madu Bala, wife of Late Satish Kumar of Kandizal Pulwama dead on the spot while injuring another occupant identified as Paris Dobay, a resident of Reasi Jammu, news agency KNT reported Friday.

Last Phase of **DDC Polls Today**

46 Women Among 168 Candidates In Fray: SEC



Jammu: The fate of 168 candidates will be sealed in ballot boxes during the last phase of District **Development Council (DDC) polls** to be held across 28 constituencies of Jammu and Kashmir on

Besides DDCs, by-elections will also be held for 285 Panch and 84 Sarpanch seats in the Union

Addressing a Press Conference here, State Election Commissioner (SEC), KK Sharma said that out of

from Kashmir division and 15 from Jammu division with 168 candidates contesting the last leg of the elections.

Giving further details, Sharma said that against the 13 DDC constituencies of Kashmir division going to poll tomorrow, there are 83 candidates in fray including 31 females.

"In Jammu division, there are 85 candidates in fray for the 15 DDC constituencies in this phase, including 15 females in this final phase of the DDC 28 DDC constituencies, 13 seats polls," he said.

Poonch Rattles With Cross-LoC **Shelling**

SRINAGAR: India and Pakistani troops on Friday traded heavy gunfire along the Line of Control (LoC) in Poonch district of Jammu and Kashmir

"At 1740 hours today, the Pakistan army initiated unprovoked ceasefire violation by firing with small arms and intense shelling with mortars along the LoC in Mendhar and Balakote sectors in district Poonch," defence spokesman

The spokesman said the Indian army retaliated at both the places befittingly.

The LoC has witnessed heavy firing and shelling during the last few weeks, resulting in an increased number of casualties and triggering a fear psychosis among the residents of border areas.

On December 1, the Pakistan army violated the ceasefire by shelling forwards posts in Rajouri sector along the LoC. A BSF sub-inspector was killed in the shelling.
On November 27, two sol-

diers of the Indian Army were killed when Pakistani troops opened heavy fire and shelled forward posts in Sunderbani sector in Rajouri district.

Kashmir Freezes As Night Temperature Dips

Minus 10.6° **Celsius KO Pic: Abid Bhat** SRINAGAR: Kashmir continued to

reel under freezing night temperature on Friday even as there was a marginal increase in the minimum temperature in Srinagar city and Gulmarg tourist resort, the meteorological department said. Srinagar - the summer capital of

Jammu and Kashmir - and the famous ski-resort of Gulmarg in north Kashmir were the only places in the Valley where the night temperature improved Thursday night, it said. According to MeT, all the other

weather stations across the Valley minimum temp.



registered a further decrease in the A Boatman holds a slab of ice formed inside Srinagar's Dal Lake, where More On P2 minimum temperature was recorded minus 6.0 Degree Celsius on Friday.

Militant Injured In Anantnag Dies At SMHS

SRINAGAR: A Hizbul Mujahideen militant, who was critically injured in a shootout with state forces in south Kashmir's Anantnag district on Thursday, succumbed to his injuries at a hospital here on Friday.

Zahoor Abbas Lone of Inder Pulwama, who was undergoing treatment for gunshot wounds in his abdomen after Thursday's gunfight with the government forces in Naina area of Sangam, passed away at the SMHS hospital here, reports said.

Lone's death comes a week after his wife Rozy Jaan died after suffering a cardiac arrest. Lone's brother Nisar was also a militant and was killed in an encounter with government forces in 1999.

According to a police spokesperson, Lone was arrested at a checkpoint laid during the intervening night of December 16-17 near Gund Baba Khaleel along Sangam Naina road on the basis of a specific input.

Militant Associate Held In Pulwama: Police

Srinagar- Police on Friday claimed to have arrested an over ground worker of Ansar Ghazwat-ul-Hind outfit from south Kashmir's Pulwama district.

A police spokesman said the accused was involved in providing shelter, logistics and other support as well as in transporting of arms, ammunition and More On P2

No Study Leave For J&K **Employees Without Permission**

ministration on Friday ordered its employees not to proceed on study leave without its prior permission from competent

(Leave) Rules, 1979, study leave shall not down requisite formalities. be granted unless it is certified by the authority competent to grant leave that the Circular (No. 35-GAD of 2018) on 13 proposed course of study or training shall be of definite advantage from the point of view of public interest.

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir ad- Secretaries that the study leave cases may be forwarded to Finance Dept and General Administration Dept in advance and within the stipulated time frame to ensure that the officers and officials shall proceed for study As per Rule 61(3)(i) of J&K Civil Services outside J&K only after fulfilling all the laid

Further, the government issued a fresh 2018, again impressing upon al August Administrative Secretaries to forward study leave cases to the General Administration The government on 6 February 2017 Department for concurrence with complete issued a Circular (No. 08-GAD of 2017) details, so that the Government employees impressing upon all the Administrative shall not proceed on study >> More On P2



COVID-19



28 Lakh People In J&K To Be **Vaccinated in First 3 Phases**

gramme and 28 lakh high-risk people will be inoculated in the first three phases across the union territory, officials said on Friday.

workers shall be covered in the first through CoWin dashboard platform. phase of COVID vaccination programme. In second phase, approximately 7 lakh frontline workers shall be covered, help monitor the entire vaccination Financial Commissioner of Health and process.

IAMMU: The lammu and Kashmir ad- Medical Education Department Atal ministration has draw an elaborate Dulloo said. The third phase will cover **plan for COVID-19 vaccination pro-** 20 lakh beneficiaries of high-risk population, he added.

Dulloo, who has been leading the health department's response to COVID situation in Jammu and Kashmir, said "Approximately 1 lakh healthcare the vaccine shall be administered will help monitor the entire vaccination process. CoWin is a mobile app that will

7 More Deaths, 388 New Cases

SRINAGAR: At least seven more people succumbed to coronavirus in Jammu and Kashmir on Friday, even as 388 fresh cases, including four minors were detected across the Union Territory during the last 24 hours. While four more people died of Covid-19 in Jammu division, three others succumbed to the virus in Kashmir Valley, taking the number of deaths since the outbreak of pandemic in J&K to 1833, officials said Friday. >> More On P2

Getting Vaccinated Will Be Voluntary

NEW DELHI: Getting vaccinated for COVID-19 will be voluntary, the Union Health Ministry has said while underlining that the vaccine introduced in India will be as effective as any vaccine developed by other countries.

The ministry further stated that it was advisable to receive a complete schedule of the anti-coronavirus vaccine irrespective of past history of infection with COVID-19 More On P2

LG Launches eVIN

JAMMU: Ahead of the much awaited Covid-19 vaccine rollout, the Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Friday launched the Electronic Vaccine Intelligence Network (eVIN) aimed to rationalize vaccine flow and distribution across the Union Territory.

The LG launched eVIN here ON Friday at Raj Bhavan in the presence of his Advisor Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar; Chief Secretary BVR Subrahmanyam; Financial Commissioner H&ME, Atal Dulloo; CEO NHM → More On P8

DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL **ELECTIONS-2020**



WEAR FACE MASK FROM HOME TO **POLLING STATION**



KEEP 6 FT. DISTANCE



USE SAINTIZER AT POLLING STATION



मास्क पहन कर वोट डालें

POLL DATE

19-12-2020

Issued in public interest by: STATE ELECTION COMMISSIONER, J&K