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**HOW CAN VITAMIN D SAVE** 

**US FROM COVID-19 ?** 

When we move from one place to

another, during that time our body

movement but also for respiration

requires energy not only for the

and other metabolic activities



#### P3 CITY

#### **PROTEST IN SRINAGAR AS PRICES OF** ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES SOAR

Protests were held in the capital Srinagar City on Wednesday against the prolonging mutton crisis, curtailment in ration supplies, rising prices of fuel and other edible commodities in...



A house divided cannot stand. —Abraham Lincoln

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#### NEWS DIGEST

#### 3 More Covid-19 **Deaths In J&K**

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir reported three more coronavirus deaths on Wednesday while 97 fresh cases of virus, including 20 travellers were detected across the Union Territory during the last 24 hours. All the victims, officials said, were residents of Kashmir Valley and their deaths have taken the fatality count to 
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#### **Army's Counter** Infiltration Strategy **Robust: Govt**

NEW DELHI: The Indian Army has adopted a robust counter infiltration strategy focusing on a mix of technology and human resources to effectively check infiltration in border areas, the government said on Wednesday. The measures to check infiltration include boosting surveillance architecture and intelligence gathering, 
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#### **Dead Sheep Creates Bomb Scare**

SRINAGAR: Panic gripped Subhanpora village of Oaimoh Kulgam here in south Kashmir when a blood stained bag was found by locals along the Srinagar-Jammu highway on Wednesday morning. Police rushed to spot and stopped vehicular movement on the highway. Sources told local news agency KNT that a bomb disposal squad (BDS) was also called 
More On P10

#### 2 Held With Sharp-

# **US Helped India** During LAC Stand-Off: Pentagon Commander

Ρ7

'Provided Some Info. Equipment To India In Its Border Crisis With China'

#### Press Trust Of India

WASHINGTON: The US provided some information, cold-weather clothing and some other equipment to India during its recent border crisis with China, which has adopted an increasingly assertive military posture to exert pressure and expand its influence across the region, a top Pentagon commander has told American lawmakers.

Admiral Philips Davidson, Commander of the US Indo-Pacific Command, also told the powerful Senate Armed Services Committee on Tuesday that China's recent activities along the Line of Actual Control have opened India's eyes to what cooperative effort with others might mean for their own defensive needs as he observed that

New Delhi, in the very near term, will deepen its engagement with the Quad "India has long had an approach called strategic autonomy, you know, a

nonaligned approach with others, but I think certainly the activities along the Line

cooperative effort with others might mean for their own defensive needs," Admiral Davidson told lawmakers during the Congressional hearing. "We have provided some information to India 
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of Actual Control with China

has opened their eyes to what

#### **President XI Tells Army To Be Ready**

BEIJING: Chinese President Xi Jinping has told the country's military that it must be prepared to respond to a variety of "complex and difficult" situations at any time, and to resolutely safeguard national sovereignty. Xi, 67, who heads the ruling Communist Party and the military made the remarks at a panel discussion attended 
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#### **Two Militants** 'Trapped' In **Bijbehara Encounter Observer Monitoring Desk**

**SRINAGAR:** Two unidentified militants are believed to be trapped in an ongoing encounter with government forces

in Bijbehara area of south Kashmir's Anantnag district, officials said Wednesday Acting on specific information

about the presence of militants, special operations group (SOG) of police, army's 3 RR and CRPF laid a siege around Kandipora village of Bijbehara on Wednesday evening and launched a cordon and search operation, they said As the search operation was in progress, the officials said that the militants hiding in the village opened fire upon the joint team. The search team, the official said, returned the

#### Training Camps Active In PcK: GOI

#### Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Many militant training camps are active in Pakistan-controlled Kashmir (PcK) and such facilities are used for training and subsequently, infiltration into Jammu and Kashmir, Parliament was informed on Wednesday. In a written reply to a question in the Rajya Sabha, Union Minister of State for Home G Kishan Reddy also said the government has consistently emphasised to Pakistan to put an end to cross-border infiltration of militants and dismantle the infrastructure supporting militancy on a permanent basis.

"According to reports, there are several 
More On P10



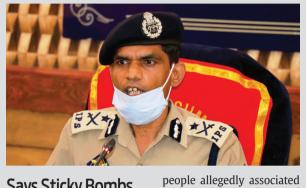
P11 SPORTS

**REAL KASHMIR FC CAPTAIN MASON ROBERTSON'S 4 MATCH BAN REVOKED** 

In a major relief to Real Kashmir FC, the All India Football Federation (AIFF) revoked the four-match suspension on its centre-back, Mason Robertson..



### 2 Major IED Blasts Foiled, 7 Arrested: IGP



with

Says Sticky Bombs Have Added New **Dimension To** Militancy In Kashmir Agencies

SRINAGAR: Police on Wednesday claimed to have pre-empted two major improvised explosive device (IED) explosions in south Kashmir by arresting seven

#### **LeT Commander** in Srinagar, Police **Sounds Alert**

SRINAGAR: Police have sounded an alert over the presence of Lashkar-e-Taiba commander Abbas and the possibility of a militant strike in this 
Mo

Jaish-e-Mohammad

and Lashker-e-Taiba outfits.

ence at the police control room

(PCR) here on Wednesday,

Inspector General of Police

(IGP) Kashmir Vijay Kumar

said that police have achieved

a major success by busting

two big modules of Lashkar

and Jaish before they could

carry out IED or suicide at-

tacks in south Kashmir areas.

"Awantipora • More On P10

Addressing a news confer-

#### Stone Pelting Unacceptable, Says IGP 39 Booked Over Friday's Nowhatta Clashes

SRINAGAR: Inspector General of Police Kashmir Vijay Kumar Wednesday said stone pelting will not be tolerated at any cost stating that 39 youth who indulged in creating law and order issue in Srinagar have been arrested of which 15 will be slapped with PSA. 

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#### **Delhi High Court** Stavs ED Summons To Mehbooba

#### **DDC Members Call Off** Protest. To Meet LG On Friday

Biden Administration. This is the first time that India

has been included in the itinerary of the first over-

seas trip of a US Defence Secretary. 
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#### Edged Weapons

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir police on Wednesday claimed to have arrested two persons along with "sharp-edged" weapons in Udhampur district. An official said that a police party of PS Udhampur laid a surprise naka near airforce road Udhampur for checking vehicles. "During the naka checking police party signalled to stop one car bearing registration 
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#### Man's Body Found In Anantnag

ANANTNAG: An unidentified male dead body was recovered beneath snow in South Kashmir's Anantnag district on Wednesday, officials said. They said that some locals spotted the body near Kapren village of Verinag area of the district and immediately informed the police about it. Soon a police team reached the spot and recovered the "decomposed" body, the officials said. They said that a case has been registered and investigations set into motion. (GNS)

#### **Press Trust Of India**

meeting on Friday.

Manoj Sinha whom they are

However, the DDC members

said they will decide their fu-

ture course of action after the

meeting with the Lt Governor,

reiterating their demand for

cancellation of the warrant

of precedence and honorari-

Territory administration.

had on Tuesday boycotted a two-day training programme JAMMU: The newly-elected here and staged a protest in District Development Council support of their demand for (DDC) members on Wednesday better status and monthly honcalled off their two-day long orarium, forcing the Lt Governor protest in support of better stato cancel his inaugural session. tus and monthly honorarium, Various political parties insaying they have got an assurcluding the BJP, the Congress, ance from Lieutenant Governor

the CPI(M) and the Peoples' Conference came out in support of the agitating DDC members and urged Lt Governor Sinha to ensure they have adequate powers to mobilise government departments and address public grievances.

The maiden DDC elections to 280 seats - 14 each um scale set up by the Union in 20 districts – were held in November-December last year Cutting across party lines, the and the chairpersons and their newly-elected DDC members deputies in all 
More On P10

#### **Bukhari Seeks PM, Shah's Intervention**

he Apni Party on Wednesday urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi

and Union Home Minister Amit Shah to resolve protocol power and honorarium issues of DDC members, alleging that the bureaucracy has always attempted to uproot the democratic edifice in Jammu and Kashmir. This comes on a day District Development Council (DDC) 
More On P10

## **Gulmarg Receives More Snow As Mercury Dips In Kashmir**

plains amid forecast for er-

A meteorological de-

skiing resort, received 2.5

ratic weather till March 15.

#### Agencies

SRINAGAR: The upper reaches of Kashmir Valley, including Gulmarg received fresh snowfall while rains lashed

centimetres fresh snowfall in last 24 hours till 0830 hours. In past 72 hours, the famed partment official said that tourist destination in north Gulmarg, the world famous Kashmir received 52.5cm of snow and 
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#### Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The Delhi High Court on Wednesday asked the Enforcement Directorate not to press for former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Mehbooba Mufti's personal appearance in a money laundering case till the court hears her petition on March 18, her daughter said.

The matter came up for hearing before a division bench of Justices Siddharth Mridul and Anup Jairam Bhambhani. The matter was posted for March 18 with a direction to the ED not to press for her personal appearance on March 15. The PDP leader had challenged 
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## **Kashmir's 'Holy' Heist Driven By Dope?**

#### **Zeenish Imroz**

n the early fall of 2020, a half-naked man showed up in Srinagar's Dastgeer Sahab shrine to commit vet another dark deed.

Amid pandemic, sanctums of Kashmir faced a wave of thefts. Such acts of stealing were first noticed by the early risers-muezzins-before a group of gumshoes would arrive at the crime scene for inspection.

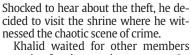
At Khanyar, the boyish burglar's midnight arrival looked like a classic case of burglary. His oily body reminded many of those hoary robbers of yore who would loot shelters and shops, and give slip to their captors with their greasy skin.

The bolstered thug, it seemed, was only following his tribe's textbook rule. With the dawn of 13 September



2020, the security guard of the shrine woke up for a routine inspection round. Leaving his wooden chamber through the entrance, he walked into the narrow corridor to the sanctum of Ghous-ul-Azam Dastgeer, Sheikh Abdul QadirJeelani [RA], where he was shocked to witness the security breach. The donation box lied broken, empty of all the cash and gold.

The appalled guard immediately called Khalid Geelani, one of the members of the Intizamiya Committee of the shrine, to inform him about the robbery. Khalid, still asleep, woke up with a jerk.



to arrive for the pre-dawn prayer. On

viewing the mind-numbing situation, the shrine custodians were in a dilemma – whether to offer prayers or not. After Khalid persuaded them to pray as there was no logic in visiting the police station so early, the prayer was held with disarrayed minds.

Inside the sanctum, Khalid along with some members of the Intizamiya Committee waited for the police station to become operational for filing the First Information Report (FIR).

Given the centrality of the shrine, the matter looked sensitive. But unlike last time, 2012, when the sanctum rose up in flames, cops faced no flaring tempers in "Naya Kashmir". Heightened fortified footfall had created its own hush when the investigation team led by SDPO Farhan Jehanzaib, Inspector Parvaiz Ahmad Wani, ASI and head 
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