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Cuote Quote

The brightest light

casts the

darkest shadow

-Jess C. Scott

NEWS DIGEST

CBI Raids Petrol

Pumps In Bandipora

SRINAGAR: Central Bureau of Inves-

tigation (CBI) on Saturday raided

two petrol stations located in two

different villages of North Kash-

mir's Bandipora district following

complaints about irregularity in the

volume. Sources said that sleuths

of CBI accompanied by local police

raided two petrol stations located

in Pushwari and Markundal villages

of Sumbal. >> More On P6

Canines Injure

Minor In Qazigund

SRINAGAR: A two-year-old boy was

on Saturday injured after he was

attacked by the stray dogs at Y K

Pora village of Qazigund in South

Officials said that the stray dogs

pounced upon a child identified as

Salam Ahmad Bhat, son of Roauf

Ahmad Bhat of Y K Pora, Qazigund,

resulting in critical injuries to the

boy. The dogs, they said, dragged

the child but the >> More On P6

Head-on Collision

SRINAGAR: One person was killed

and two others sustained injuries in

a road mishap at Nanil Akura area in

south-Kashmir's Anantnag district

on Saturday. Reports said that the

accident happened when a load

carrier and bike collided, resulting

in on-spot death of a person and

injuries to two others. The deceased has been identified as Ghulam Mo-

hammed Parray son of Ghulam Nabi

Parray (56), a resident of Nanil and

Man Killed In

Kashmir's Kulgam district.

77 -

P3 CITY

SRINAGAR ADMIN ORDERS ON-SPOT FINE FOR THOSE WITHOUT MASKS

Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad Saturday chaired a meeting of Administrative and Medical Officers of the district regarding the containment of Covid 19...

BADAM VAER: ALMONDS & AURA

The other day I cannot believe that after 14 years I am finally back and trying to settle down at my native place. It was an amazing experience to see the better and bitter side of life. It provided me an opportunity to know the world far and beyond. I cherished every..



P7 STATE

KASHMIR SIKH BODY DEMANDS FRESH PROBE INTO CHATTISINGHPORA MASSACRE

All Party Sikh Coordination Committee (APSCC) Saturday, on the eve of the Chattisinghpora massacre anniversary, urged the government to conduct a fresh.



COVID-19 SURGE Centre Asks J&K To Take 'Necessary Action'

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The government of India has asked Jammu and Kashmir administration to take necessary measures for creating awareness among people to follow COVID appropriate behaviour and take necessary action for its strict enforcement so as to fully overcome the covid-19 pandemic.

Secretary Ajay Kumar Bhalla has written a letter to Chief Secretary J&K, inviting attention to January 27 order by MHA, delineating guidelines for surveillance, containment



and caution. In terms of Guidelines, State/ UT Governments have been man-

giene and social distancing. Further, these measures on

wearing of face masks, hand hy-

COVID appropriate behavior are dated to take all necessary meaalso included in the National Directives >> More On P6

140 New **Covid Cases** In J&K

Additional Sessions Judge

Dharmender Rana on Saturday

while takes cognizance on the

charge sheet, issued a sum-

mon against Dr Bilquies Shah

for her presence in the court

on June 9 and also issued a

production >> More On P6

Delhi Court Summons Shabir Shah's Wife In PMLA Case

Agencies

New Delhi: The Delhi Court issued summons against Kashmir's separatist leader Shabir Shah's wife Dr Bilquies Shah while taking cognizance on a charge sheet in a money laundering case related to militant financing. He is currently lodged in Tihar jail under judicial custody.

According to the statement, Enforcement Directorate, in its supplementary charge sheet which was filed last year named Shabir Shah's wife Dr Bilquies Shah as a new accused in the case.

Road To Peace Passes



healthcare department, new Government Medical Colleges (GMCs) in Jammu and Kashmir have been accredited for Diplomate of National Board (DNB) courses in various departments, an official

With this, the accredited institutions would get two PG candidates in the certified stream every year, the spokesman said.

Till now, 30 Super Specialty and Broad Specialty courses have been approved by the National Board of Examinations (NBE) which are likely to give 58 seats to the Union Territory.

In new GMCs, the sr man said two >> More On P6

Observer Monitoring Desk SRINAGAR: The Meteorological Department on Saturday issued 'yellow' warning forecasting heavy rain and snowfall in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh regions from March 21 which



Warning For J&K

Deputy Director WEATHER Meteorological department, Dr Mukhtar Ahmad said that in quick succession, two Western Disturbances (WDs) are most likely to af-

fect J&K and adjoining areas from March 21 (afternoon). "Under the influence of these weather systems, widespread moderate rain/snow is expected in Jammu, Kashmir and light rain/snow at a few places of Ladakh region on

New Power Curtailment

In an

on

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The power curtail-

Heavy Rainfall, Snow Likely To Disrupt Traffic, Trigger Landslides March 21," reads the advisory. It adds that another WD mostly likely to affect J&K and neighbourhood from March 22 afternoon, will peak intensity during 22 and 23 night. It will gradually decrease

> ing stones in vulnerable spots of Jammu-Srinagar, Srinagar-Leh highways. Temporary

It also urges suspension and avoiding agricultural and horticultural operations besides draining out excess water.

codes signifying the level of caution: green which means no action, yellow-situation

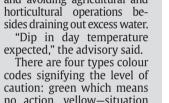
to be >> More On P6

Agencies

Schedule Soon

thereafter. "This may lead to tempo-rary disruption of surface traffic mainly on Jammu-Srinagar, Srinagar-Leh, Mughal Road and other major roads. Landslides and shoot-

water logging in low lying areas," the advisory reads.



Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination Dr Faisal Sultan took to Twitter to confirm that Khan, 68, has contracted the coronavirus on a day when the country registered the highest number of COVID-19 cases since July last year. Khan was vaccinated on Thursday as part of the nationwide anti-coronavirus vaccina-

tion campaign which is underway in its first phase. Khan is reported to have received the first shot of the Chinese-produced Sinopharm vaccine, the only anti-COVID jab available in Pakistan. PM Imran

Khan has tested >> More On P6 After Go Air, Indigo Starts

Imran Khan Tests MeT Dept Issues Weather Covid-19 Positive

P

THINK

Modi Wishes Him Speedy Recovery

Press Trust Of India

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Prime

Minister Imran Khan on

Saturday tested positive for the

COVID-19 and is self-isolating

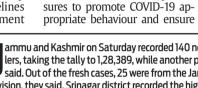
at home, his top aide on health

announced, two days after he

got the first shot of a vaccine.



In this regard Union Home



ammu and Kashmir on Saturday recorded 140 new coronavirus cases, including 29 travellers, taking the tally to 1,28,389, while another person died from the pathogen, officials said. Out of the fresh cases, 25 were from the Jammu division and 115 from the Kashmir division, they said. Srinagar district recorded the highest 73 cases, including 17 travellers, fol-

lowed by 22 in Jammu district, 18 in Budgam and 14 Baramulla districts. In all, >> More On P6

GMCs To Start New PG Courses





the injured as Abdul Rasheed and Sadiga (minor) >> More On P6

Charges Filed Against 8 'Fraudsters'

JAMMU: The Crime Branch of Jammu and Kashmir Police on Saturday filed a preliminary charge sheet against eight people running a private company here over their alleged involvement in illegally receiving cash deposits from the general public. The case was registered in 2017 after Deputy General Manger, Reserve Bank of India (RBI), A K Mattu sought a discreet inquiry into the >> More On P6

SMC Shifts Four Enforcement Officers

SRINAGAR: Srinagar Municipal Corporation on Saturday transferred four of its Enforcement Officers and posted them as Zonal Sanitation Officers respectively. According to an order issued by SMC, four enforcement officers, Urfan Hussain Mir, Incharge Enforcement officer East, Mehraj ud din Chowdhry, I/C Enforcement officer Central/North. Muieeb Hussain, I/C Enforcement officer South, Mohammad Yousuf Qazi, >> More On P6

would likely be changed by the end of this month while the officials concerned stated that the summer would be free of curtailments in Kashmir.

Chief Engineer of Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCL), Aijaz Ahmad Dar said that the schedule would be changed soon after the fresh weather advisory issued by the concerned department will end. He said that >> More On P6

Srinagar International Airport, a day after Go Air started first ever night flight service from the Valley. "Today another success-ful trail flight was oper-

SRINAGAR: Indigo, a leading

launched a night flight from

liner on Saturday

ated by Indigo

Night Flight From Srinagar

the summer flight movement schedule will be according to the DGCA which is expected to come by next week," Director Airport Santosh Dhoke said.

Airlines from Srinagar Airport

to New Delhi and there will be

no trail flights as of now, now

Divisional Commissioner Kashmir PK Pole said the flights operated from the Srinagar Airport were trial flights before More On P6

....hdiG0

Through J&K: Mehbooba



Agencies

SRINAGAR: Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) President and former Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti on Saturday reminded the leadership in New Delhi and Islamabad that the route to peace in subcontinent traverses through Kashmir and any bonhomie between the two

'Restlessness'

Among People

In J&K: Cong

District Convention Kulgam Mehbooba said that any renewed thaw in the relationships of the two countries is subservient to the progress made towards addressing the long pending >> More On P6

neighbours should put Kashmir

and Kashmiris front and centre.

Addressing a gathering of party workers at

ashing out at Centre government for failing to address the grievances of people and causing restlessness among the people in J&K, All India Congress Committee (AICC) in-charge for >> More On P6

Charges Filed In Scholarship Scam

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Crime Branch on Saturday produced preliminary charge sheet against a West Bengal resident who was arrested in connection with the whopping Rs 1.34 crore scholarship scam.

The charge sheet was produced before the Anticorruption Court Srinagar against Selem Sheik of Malda, West Bengal, who is in custody of the Crime Branch since his arrest in January last month, an official said. The accused, he said, is involved in uploading fake application forms on National Scholarship Portal for Merit Cum Means Scholarship under Minority Quota for J&K students during the year 2018-19 for district Kulgam Subsequently, fake verifications >> More On P6

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Police chief Dilbagh Singh Saturday claimed that American assault rifle M4, which was among the seized weapons recently, was being illegally manufactured somewhere in Pakistan or Afghanistan.

Press Trust Of India

He was giving details of the weapons which were smuggled in from Pakistan using drones and other means but



seized by state forces along the border during 2020. "The weapons seized last

Pak Made Rifles Found in J&K: DGP

to what we have seized in previous years. In all, there were 475 weapons seized last year. The number was not even half of this in 2019," the top cop of the union territory said. He said among the recoveries were pistols, AK assault rifles, M4 rifles, narcotics and

year was huge, incomparable

cash as well. "M4 actually is an American rifle but there are duplicates manufactured >> More On P6

LURED FOR JOB' **Inside Kashmir's Child Trafficking Network**

Swati Joshi

ohan was brought to Kashmir Revisit the promise of a high paying job. But little did he know that he would end up as a household worker in southern Kashmir's Pulwama area.

Before his unwitting valley visit, the minor was living in an ashram in Assam, where he used to work at weddings to earn his livelihood.

One day while returning from a wedding at night, he met a person who asked him if he wanted to earn more money. Rohan who had no one in his family except his little sister decided to go with the man in search of work.

Exhausted by the work, he slept

on the train, unknown of the place the man was taking him. When he woke up he was on his way to Jammu.

"Rohan was brought to Pulwama through a consultancy firm who told us that he was an adult," said Tawseef Ahmad Ganai, a member of Child Welfare Committee (CWC), Pulwama.

When Ganai got information about Rohan, he alerted the District Child Protection Unit (DCPO) who gave the boy's custody to the CWC.

On examination, it was found out that Rohan was a student of 8th class, when brought to Kashmir-"meaning that he was around 13 years old," said Ganai.

The consultancy firm was given a

warning and since then it is under the scanner of the CWC, Ganai told Kashmir Observer.

People believe that there is no human trafficking in Jammu & Kashmir, but they're wrong, said Mohammad Sharif Bhat, J&K and Ladakh head of NGO, Save the Children."I've seen many people having minor non-Kashmiri servants in their homes," he said.

Three years ago, Bhat came across a minor girl from Kolkata who was found on a farm in northern Kashmir's Kupwara district. Alerted by the Information District Social Welfare Officer, the NGO soon rescued the traumatized kid.

"I took her to the hospital and informed the concerned >> More On P6

