

News *Digest*

Policeman Held Red-Handed with Bribe

Jammu: A Policeman was caught red-handed by Anti Corruption Bureau (ACB) sleuths while accepting a bribe of Rs 10,000 in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district on Friday, officials said. The ACB registered a case against sub inspector Naseer Khan of Mendhar Police Station under section 7 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, they said. Acting on a complaint by Shehdab Hussain Munir Hussain. a resident of Chhajla in Poonch district, the ACB said that the policeman was caught from the main market in Mendhar. • P10

Salman Sagar Shifted To Hospital

Srinagar: National Conference youth leader Salman Ali Sagar was shifted to hospital from MLA Hostel makeshift jail after he complained of uneasiness. Sources said that the NC youth leader complained of uneasiness following which he was shifted to SKIMS Soura.

"He was shifted back to the makeshift jail after undergoing treatment," source said, adding "Several detained political lead-ers are facing health problems," Hundreds of political leaders and activists were detained in Jammu and Kahsmir, after • P10

BSF Trooper Shoots Self At Humhama

Srinagar: A Border Security Force (BSF) trooper allegedly committed suicide by shooting himself dead in Humhama area of Budgam district, sources said Saturday. BSF constable Dineshwar Jadhav shot himself dead with his service rifle at his camp in Humhama, they said. Jadhav was posted with BSF 1st battalion. Sources said police was trying to ascertain the reason behind this extreme step by the trooper. (KNT)

Kashmir Police Arrest Nigerian Fraudster

Ready To Take Pak Kashmir: Army Chief Naravane

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI: While maintaining that both Northern and Western frontiers are equally important for India, Army chief General M.M. Naravane on Saturday said whenever government gives the go-ahead, his force is ready to take away Pakistan administered Kashmir (PaK).

Making it clear that accordingly rebalancing of deployment of the forces and weapons are being carried out, the General commenting on Pakistan administered Kashmir said: "If Parliament wants that area should be taken we will definitely do so and action will be taken accordingly.'

The Indian Army chief's comments came at the annu-al press conference, **PAGE 10**



When Army Is Ready, Why Wait? Says Ajmer Dargah Head

Welcoming Army chief Gen M M Naravane's statement on Pakistan-administered Kashmir (PaK) on Saturday, the spiritual head of Ajmer Dargah said the force should be ordered to take back PaK. "When the Army is prepared, why wait?" the dargahdeewanZainul Abedin Ali Khan said. "The parliament should order the Army to take back PaK," he tweeted. He said the time has come for India to integrate PaK with itself and fulfil the dream of "Akhand Kashmir". 🖲

2 More File Papers For Dy Mayor's Post

AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: Two Corporators, including one from the BJP filed nomination papers for the post of Deputy Mayor of Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) and with this number of nominations rose up to five.

The Corporators Arif Ma-jeed Pampori of BJP (Ward 48-Nawakadal) and independent Abdul Wahid Dar (Ward 72-Zakoora) filed their nominations for the post of Deputy Mayor, sources said.

Pampori hails from Hyderpora Srinagar who was elected as Corporator from Nawakadal, Srinagar while Dar hails from Dudbugh Zakoora was elected as Corporator from Zakura. Earlier, Congress Councilor

Nakul Matto, a migrant Pandit from Janipora Jammu filed his nomination paper for the post of Deputy Mayor.

The elections for the post of Deputy Mayor will be held on 13 January. In this regard a formal notification has been issued. A no confidence motion had

been moved against the Deputy Mayor Sheikh Imran in his absence at SMC recently. Imran is currently lodged • P10

Valley Braces For Fresh Spell **Of Snowfall**

AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: Ahead of fresh snowfall predicted by the weather department from Sunday, major parts of the world famous Dal Lake and other water bodies froze as the Valley continued to reel under cold-wave conditions on Saturday, with the minimum temperature settling several degrees below the freezing point. A Met department spokes-

arrived in the region through Afghanistan and Pakistan. The WD will remain active in the Jammu and Kashmir which could result in rain and snowfall during the next 48 hours. The upper reaches could receive fresh snowfall since Saturday evening, he said. Fresh snowfall due to present system could affect air and sur-

face traffic, he said. Major portion of the Dal Lake were frozen on Saturday, when summer capital, Srinagar, reman said this afternoon that corded minus 5 degree, over a Western Disturbance (WD), three notches colder than yes-originating in Arabian sea has terday when the **PAGE 10**

1200 Vehicles Stranded **On Banihal Highway**

Several thousand vehicles, including those carrying passengers, are stranded on the Srinagar-Jammu National Highway due to slippery road conditions coupled with heavy traffic jam, official sources said on Saturday. No fresh vehicle was allowed from Jammu or Srinagar, as only stranded vehicles were allowed to move towards their respective destinations, sources said. They said over 1200 Kashmir bound Heavy Motor • P10

J&K DSP Held With 2 Jaish Militants

AGENCIES

grenades from it, IANS reported. "Two AK-47 rifles were re-**SRINAGAR:** The J& K Police covered in a subsequent raid at on Saturday detained a senior the officer's residence," sourcpolice officer after two Jaishes told the wire. e-Mohammed (JeM) militants Singh, detained for questioning, and five grenades were recovered from the vehicle he was

was posted at the Srinagar airport in the anti-hijacking squad. travelling in, top sources said. According to sources, the de-According to a report by New tained officer had served in the Delhi based wire service IANS, anti-insurgency special opera-Deputy Superintendent of Po- tions group (SOG) of the state ice (DSP) Devinder Singh was police for many years

PDP Leader Resigns In Protest Against Expulsions

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

SRINAGAR: Two days after the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) expelled eight of its leaders after they met Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, a former MLC Javed Mirchal resigned from the party on Saturday in protest against the expulsions.

Rebel PDP Leaders Meet Bukhari

Many rebel leaders of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) on Saturday met Syed Altaf Bukhari at his Srinagar residence. Abdul Majeed Paddar, Noor Muhammad Sheikh, Abdul Rahim Rather, Javed Hasan Beigh, who were sacked by PDP for engaging in parleys with the government, today met Bukhari and discussed the future course of action with him, sources said. Congress leader Hilal Ahmed Shah, who 😐 🎦

Mirchal in a statement is- who had met the Lieutenant party and said the PDP has sued here, said that he has. Governor to put forth some failed to live up to the exresigned in protest against of the important public depectations of people and has betrayed the public mandate the way his colleagues were mands in the present political brazenly. ship, especially Raja Manzoor Mirchal resigned from the "After going through a deep Ahmad, former MLA Karnah, primary membership of the thought process and **»PAGE 10**

NC Seeks Release Of Political Leaders

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

SRINAGAR: The National Conference on Saturday appealed for early release of all political leaders, detained in August last year, for resumption of political activities in the new Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

Rejecting reports appearing in a section of the media, the NC said it was not working on any deal with the Centre to secure release of its leadership.

Terming the reports "baseless", the NC said in a statement that both patron Farooq Abdullah son Omar Abdullah as well as other detained leaders of the party would never leave Kashmir. "The party would like to place on record that no such deal has **PAGE 10**

Srinagar: A Nigeria national who had duped several people in Valley, was arrested by the Jammu and Kashmir police from the Indian capital.

The accused identified as Thimoezi was arrested by police after a case of fraud and cheating was registered against him at Parimpora Police Station, sources said today. The foreigner had managed to escape from Kashmir Valley after duping people of their hard earned money. A police official said that the accused was brought to Srinagar and currently he was lodged at police station Parimpora. "We are investigating the • P10

Missing Cop Found Dead In Srinagar

Srinagar: Police has recovered the body of a cop, who went missing from Chogal area of Handwara in December last. Abdul Rashid Hajam, a follower in police department was found dead by cops from this capital city on Friday evening, a local newsgathering agency KNS reported. The body of the deceased was handed over to the family for last rites after completing legal and medico formalities. Hajam had gone missing on December 27 following which his family had registered a • P10

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detained in the Mir Bazar area of Although senior officers are south Kashmir's Kulgam district.

tight-lipped about the develop-The police intercepted his ment, sources said Singh was vehicle and arrested two JeM being questioned to unearth his militants and recovered five nexus with militants. (IANS)

expelled by the PDP leader- circumstances.

Fuel Shortage Hits Srinagar, Other Districts AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: Barely 12 hours after the government spokesman said that 150 oil tankers were deported to Srinagar, almost all the fuel stations in this capital city and neighbourhood districts remained closed due to the shortage of fuel.

According to witnesses, most of the fuel stations in this capital city remained closed today due to the shortage of petrol and diesel. The commuters had to face tremendous hardships since the wee hours today as almost all the fuel stations remained shut.

"Commuters were seen moving from one fuel station to another to get the tankers of their vehicle refilled, but they were leaving the stations with utter disappointment." witnesses said.

They said even the shops selling **PAGE 10**

Channelize Your Energy In Right Direction, LG Urges Youth

OBSERVER NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor, Girish Chandra Murmu on Saturday urged the youth for developing the sense of excellence by recognizing their talent and channelize their energies in the right direction.

In a message on the occasion of the National Youth Day which is observed to commemorate the birth anniversarv of Swami Vivekananda, LG appealed to the youth of J&K to inculcate the ideas and principles of Swami Vivekananda ent and channelize their ener-



scholar and work selflessly for the betterment of the society. Murmu urged the youth for developing the sense of excellence by recognizing their talas a way to express their trib- gies in the right direction for ute to the great thinker and further strengthening **PAGE 10**

ightarrow DGP Reviews Functioning Of Police Public Schools

OBSERVER NEWS SERVICE

IAMMU: Director General of Police J&K Dilbag Singh on Saturday reviewed the functioning of police public schools in the annual meeting of board of administrative and management committee.

According to a police spokesperson, DGP chaired the joint meeting that was held at GO's Mess Jammu. The meeting reviewed the functioning of J&K Police Public schools established across the Union Territory and discussed different proposals regarding these schools function- the spokesperson said. ing in Jammu, Srinagar, Doda,



sports activities of the schools as also issues faced by these in-

Singh impressed that some

in the working, infrastructure

stitutions" he added. "The DGP reviewed func-

Rajouri, Anantnag, Baramulla tioning of these Police Public more measures need »PAGE 10

Post-370, Dal Craves For Attention As Efforts To Conserve Lake Are Halted KO CORRESPONDENT

months as Kashmir slipped state-turned union territory's less. One of the hardest hit natural assets has been Dal lake, Kashmir's most famous water body, and a magnet for conservation plan for the lake tourists from far and wide.

As the daily cleaning of the entific understanding. It is adlake by the concerned Lakes hoc," says Shakeel Ramshoo, and Waterways Development the professor and the head of Authority came to a halt dur- the department of Earth Sciing the ongoing strife, a thick ences at Kashmir University. and a growing coat of algae spread through a wide swathe the symptoms, not addressing of the waterbody and threat- the root cause".

ened to overwhelm it. The algae, environmental SRINAGAR: Over the past five experts say, had been largely controlled in recent years, into a paralysis following nul- thanks to a multi-crore rulification of Article 370, the pees clean-up funded by the Government of India. And its environment has suffered no resurfacing now points to the deteriorating health of an already stressed lake.

"Basic problem with the is that it is not based on a sci-"We have only been treating



Dal has been the focus of an strategies of conservation and intense recovery effort over the rehabilitation to rejuvenate the past three decades. The the lake's ecosystem and to rid state and the central govern- it of the encroachment respec- moored in its waters. ments have followed twin tively. The plan called The

Project was drawn up in 2005. ace the eco-system of the lake funded by the Union Ministry absence of cleaning by the conof Environment and Forests cerned Lakes and Waterways has somehow pulled along, it Development Authority durhas largely made a symptom- ing the ongoing strife, returned atic difference to the condition of the lake. And the state government financed rehabilitation plan which includes mental experts, springs from removing encroachment and resettling the people living inside the Dal hasn't made much of a headway, even though the plan dates back to 1987. Around 50,000 people live in 58 hamlets within the lake and around 750 houseboats are

As return of the algae makes

Dal-Nigeen Lake Conservation it clear, the factors that men-Though conservation effort haven't gone away and in the with a vengeance.

The basic threat to Dal's survival, according to environits altered watershed over the past several decades. The lake's once large green belt has suffered an inexorable encroachment in parts. New residential colonies have sprung on the lake's west and the existing colonies have become more congested including the hamlets inside Dal, **PAGE 10**

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