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..... Life & Times/ 08  
**SOYBEAN OIL LINKED TO GENETIC CHANGES IN BRAIN, CLAIMS STUDY**  
Consuming soybean oil may not only lead to obesity and diabetes, but also "affect neurological conditions like autism, and Alzheimer's disease," claims a study in mice by researchers.....



**IRAN WARNS OF LEAVING NPT IF NUCLEAR CASE GOES TO UN**  
Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif has said that if Britain, France, and Germany continue their unjustifiable conduct and move to send Iran's nuclear case to the United Nations Security Council, Tehran would have the option.....

TI/Sports.....  
**SIMMONS BLASTS 10 SIXES AS WINDIES LEVEL SERIES**  
Opening batsman Lendl Simmons blasted 10 sixes in an undefeated 91 as West Indies routed Ireland by nine wickets in the third and final Twenty20 International at Warner Park on Sunday.....



**News Digest**

**CASO Carried Out In Kupwara**

Srinagar: Government forces on Monday launched a Cordon and Search Operation (CASO) in frontier Kashmir district of Kupwara. Official sources said that following specific information about presence of militants, a joint CASO was launched by Special Operations Groups (SOG) of J&K police, 41 Rashtriya Rifles (RR) and 98 battalion of CRPF at Sheikh Mohalla near Jamia Masjid in Kupwara on Monday. They said forces were conducting house to house searches. "Searches were also being conducted in nearby fields," they said, adding so far no contact has been established with militants.

**Girl Among 2 Killed In Road Accidents**

Srinagar: Two persons died in separate road accidents on Monday in north Kashmir's Kupwara district. Reports said that a conductor of bus fell from the roof of the bus and was critically injured. He was taken to district hospital Handwara for treatment where doctors declared him brought dead. Meanwhile, a girl was critically injured after hit by a load carrier (JK03 B 7370) at bypass road Kupwara near Jammu and Kashmir Bank. She was taken to sub district hospital Kupwara, where the doctors referred her to SMHS hospital Srinagar for advance treatment. However, she succumbed to her injuries at the hospital. ● PIO

**Man Held with 12 Kg Charas**

Srinagar: Police on Monday arrested a man from central Kashmir's Budgam district and recovered 12 kilogram of charas from his possession. Aijaz Yousof, a resident of Draigam was intercepted at a checkpoint near Krimshora village and 12 kg charas was recovered from him, Station House Officer Khanshab Gowhar Ahmed said. He said a case has been registered in this regard and investigation set into motion. (KNT)

**110 JK Students Leave For Tamil Nadu**

Jammu: A group of 110 students, drawn from various government schools of Chenab region districts on Monday left for Tamil Nadu under Students Exchange Programme of Samagra Shiksha. The students were flagged off by Commissioner/Secretary School Education, Hirdesh Kumar Singh here from Teachers' Bhawan. The group of touring children, comprising students of High and Higher Secondary levels, hail from Doda, Ramban and Kishtwar. The Secretary, while interacting with the students, informed that the programme aims at to enable them to explore and know about new avenues and facilities of education ● PIO

**DGP Supports Idea Of Deradicalisation Centres**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**SRINAGAR: Director General of Jammu and Kashmir Police Dillbagh Singh on Monday supported the idea of setting up deradicalisation centres for youth, who have gone astray, in the trouble torn union territory.**

"In recent times, there have been lot of efforts from Pakistan and its agencies to spur radicalisation in this area, some of our young minds have been affected by it and have gone astray. If such a facility (deradicalisation centre) comes up, it should be welcomed," DGP Singh told reporters here. He said some of the youth,



who have been caught by police, did not seem to talk sense sometimes. "At our end, when we have got hold of such youth, they don't seem to talk much sense at times," he said. ● PAGE 10

**No Bar On Probing Davinder's Past Crimes: DGP**

Jammu and Kashmir DGP Dillbagh Singh on Monday said there was no bar on investigating past crimes committed by sacked police officer Davinder Singh. "There is no bar on investigating any complaints against him (Davinder Singh) if we receive a formal complaint," the DGP told reporters. He was responding to a question about reports that the sacked police officer had committed several illegal acts in early years of his career but those acts were overlooked.

**IN RECENT TIMES, THERE HAVE BEEN LOT OF EFFORTS** from Pakistan and its agencies to spur radicalisation in this area, some of our young minds have been affected by it and have gone astray. If such a facility (deradicalisation centre) comes up, it should be welcomed," DGP Singh told reporters here.

**Tight Security In Kashmir Ahead Of Jan 26**

AGENCIES

**SRINAGAR:** Ahead of the January 26 celebrations, security has been beefed up across Jammu and Kashmir.

With inputs of militants trying to attack government forces around the day, police are not taking any chances.

Checkpoints have been erected in many places in Srinagar and frisking has been intensified. Police are seen at many places stopping and checking the vehicles.

The main function will be held in Jammu where Lieutenant Governor G.C. Murmu will address and take the salute.

In Srinagar, the main function on the R- Day will be held at the Sher-i-Kashmir cricket stadium.

Functions will also be held in all the district headquarters across the union territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

Just last week, the Jammu and Kashmir police busted a militant module in Srinagar and ● PIO

**Police Deserter Among 3 Hizb Militants Killed In Shopian Gunfight: DGP**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**SRINAGAR: Three Hizbul Mujahideen militants, including a police deserter and a top-ranking commander, were killed in an encounter with government forces in Shopian district of Jammu and Kashmir on Monday, police said.**

Government forces launched a cordon and search operation in Wacchi area of Shopian following information about presence of militants there, a police official said.

He said the militants were asked to surrender but they

chose to open fire towards government forces' positions.

"In the ensuing encounter, three militants of Hizbul Mujahideen were killed," the official said.

One of the slain militants was identified as Adil Ahmad, a special police officer who had deserted the force in 2018. He had decamped with seven AK assault rifles and a pistol from the official residence of then Wachi MLA Aijaz Ahmad Mir from Jawahar Nagar area in the city, the official said.

The other two militants were identified as Waseem Wani and Jahangir, he said. ● PAGE 10

**Petrol Bomb Hurlled At CRPF Bunker In Pulwama**

Unidentified persons on Monday hurled a petrol bomb at government forces in Jammu and Kashmir's Pulwama district but there was no damage done, police said. The petrol bomb was lobbed towards a CRPF bunker at Newa in Pulwama Monday evening, a police official said. He said there was no loss of life or injury in the explosion.

**Hunt For J&K Bank Chairman, MD Begins**

Govt Forms 3-Member Panel Led By Ex-Union Corporate Secretary

**SRINAGAR:** In a significant development, the Government of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir has constituted a search committee for selection of chairman as well as managing director of Jammu and Kashmir Bank Limited.

The three-member committee for the task would be headed by Tapan Ray, ex-Union Corporate Secretary, Arun Kumar Mehta, Financial Commissioner Finance department and Anand Madhukar, officer on special duty in department of Financial Services, Government of India would be part of the panel.

It is worthwhile to mention here that Reserve Bank of India in October last year gave a six months extension to R K Chhibber as the bank's Chairman and Managing Director. He was appointed as the bank's interim CEO for three months in June this year following the removal of Parvez Ahmed from the post by the State Government.

In June last year, the Board of Directors of J&K Bank recommended the appointment of separate chairman and a managing director of the bank. The J&K was also repeatedly directed by the ● PAGE 10

**Intense Cold Conditions In Kashmir Valley**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**SRINAGAR:** Kashmir reeled under intense cold conditions on Monday as the minimum temperature stayed several degrees below freezing point across the valley, the MET Office said on Monday.

A MET official said the freezing temperatures led to development of a layer of frost on roads which caused inconvenience to people especially to motorists but bright sunshine later in the day eased the situation.

Srinagar recorded a minimum temperature of minus 3.4 degree Celsius nearly a degree down from Sunday's minus 2.5 degrees Celsius,



the official said.

He said the mercury in Qazigund the gateway town to the valley in south Kashmir settled at a low of minus 5 degrees Celsius, same as last night.

Pahalgam tourist resort in south recorded a low of minus 9 degrees Celsius up from minus 13.7 degrees Celsius yesterday, the official said, adding the resort ● PAGE 10

**Availability Of Petroleum Products Reviewed**

The Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Baseer Ahmad Khan on Monday chaired a meeting of officers to discuss the availability of LPG and Petroleum products in snow affected areas of Kashmir division.

During the meeting, Khan took stock of availability of the LPG and other petroleum products, besides discussing short term as well as long term measures to overcome the scarcity of petroleum products in the Valley. The representatives of the oil companies informed the meeting that 70,000 LPG cylinders are available and the stock is sufficient for a week. They informed that more Petrol and Diesel tankers have arrived while many more are on way.

The Div Com asked the oil companies to push for 500 more trucks in next ● PIO

**Difficult To Predict War Scenario With Pakistan: CDS Rawat**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**THANJAVUR (TN):** Chief of Defence Staff Gen Bipin Rawat on Monday said it was very difficult to predict if a scenario of a war with Pakistan would emerge or not but all the defence services were prepared to take on any challenge.

The top general, who inducted the Sukhoi-30 MKI squadron here, was responding to a question about any possibility of a war emerging between India and Pakistan.

"All the defence services are tasked to be prepared for any option that may emerge. It is



very difficult to predict a scenario. But, we are always prepared for any task that may be assigned to us," Gen Rawat said. The Chief of Defence Staff

(CDS) said his new role was aimed at integrating defence systems and the three services (the Army, the Navy and the Indian Air Force). ● PAGE 10

**JKNPP Protests Govt's Silence On Delimitation, Polls**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**JAMMU:** A group of Jammu and Kashmir National Panthers Party (JKNPP) activists on Monday staged a demonstration here against the BJP for its alleged "criminal silence" post reorganisation over the issue of delimitation and Assembly elections in the Union Territory.

Party chairman and former minister Harsh Dev Singh led the protest at Exhibition Ground with participants chanting slogans in support of their demand for setting up a delimitation commission to redraw assembly constituencies and holding early assembly polls. ● PAGE 10

**J&K Deploys Addl Staff To Verify Implementation Of Schemes In UT**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**JAMMU:** The Jammu and Kashmir administration has ordered deployment of additional staff in district statistical and evaluation offices (DSEOs) to carry out detailed verification of projects being implemented under different schemes in the Union Territory.

The additional manpower comprises various officials of statistical and evaluation cadre, who have been mandated to verify every project being implemented at the ground level in their respective districts of deployment in both divisions of Kashmir and Jammu, an official

spokesman said on Monday.

An order to this effect was issued by the finance department, which envisages the officers and officials to complement other statistical staff already present in the district offices, to ensure verification and monitoring process of all the projects, the spokesman said.

A team of officers and officials of the rank of statistical officers, statistical assistants and junior statistical assistants have been provided to each district for carrying out the assignment, he said.

He said the order further directs the DSEOs to work out a plan for 100 per cent ● PAGE 10

**J-K Woos Businesses With First Of Its Kind Investors' Meet**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**NEW DELHI:** The Jammu and Kashmir administration on Monday organised a first of its kind pre-summit investors' meet here, inviting investments from across the world by highlighting the untapped potential of the newly-formed union territory.

The event, which was a curtain-raiser to the three-day Global Investors' Summit to be held in Srinagar and Jammu this year, showcased policy and regulatory environment, investment opportunities in 14 focus sectors to boost manufac-



turing and employment generation in the region.

On the occasion, Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Girish Chandra Murmu said that the Global Investors' Meet -- with the theme of 'explore, invest and grow' -- is a platform

that will bring together senior entrepreneurs, leaders from corporate sector across the country, senior policymakers, development agencies, investors from across the world and local businessmen. "We intend to ● PAGE 10

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