



Maximum : 3°C  
Minimum : -5°C  
Humidity : 74%

SUNSET Today 05:55 PM  
SUNRISE Tomorrow 07:31 AM

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**08/SPORTS.....**

**ENGLAND THUMP SOUTH AFRICA TO WIN SERIES 3-1**  
Ben Stokes and Mark Wood made a double strike shortly before tea, breaking stubborn South African resistance and setting up a 191-run win for England on the fourth day .....

**..... OPINION/ 05**

**BE AWARE OF CORONAVIRUS**  
Coronaviruses were First Identified in the 1960s, but we don't know where they come from. They get their name from their crown-like shape. Sometimes, but not often, a coronavirus can infect both animals and humans.....

**17 GUJARAT RIOTS CONVICTS GET BAIL, SUPREME COURT ORDERS SOCIAL SERVICE**  
The Supreme Court on Tuesday granted bail to 17 convicts in the 2002 Sardarpura post-Godhra riots case in which 33 Muslims were burnt alive. It has asked the convicts to relocate to Madhya Pradesh and do community service.....

**News Digest**

**SDA Removes Encroachments In City**

Srinagar: Srinagar Development Authority on Tuesday carried out a demolition drive to ensure smooth flow of traffic and pedestrian moment in the City. Under the directions of Vice Chairmen, SDA in coordination with SDPO Parimpora and officers of Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) carried out a drive to clear footpaths encroached by street vendors at various places in the Srinagar City, an official spokesperson told Kashmir Observer. ● P06

**Anantnag Shuts Over Militant's Killing**

Srinagar: Normal life was on Tuesday crippled in some parts of Anantnag due to a strike against killing of a militant in an encounter with government forces in south Kashmir on Monday evening. A police official said that there were no curfew restrictions in any part of the district though security forces have been deployed in strength to maintain law and order. Even though there was strike call given by any group, shops and business ● P06

**Burglars Loot General Store In HMT**

Srinagar: Unidentified Burglars decamped with goods worth Rs 4 lakh after they broke into a general store in HMT area of Srinagar outskirts. A police official said that unknown burglars broke into the shop of Bilal Ahmed Mir of Mustafa Abad at HMT Srinagar. The burglars looted goods worth Rs 4 lakh, he said. Police station Parimpora has registered a case and started further investigations

**Teen Militant Held From Baramulla: Police**

Srinagar: Police on Tuesday claimed to have arrested a teenager militant of Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT) outfit from Baramulla district, an official said. Sajid Farooq Dar alias Adnan was arrested from Andergam village in Pattan area of the district during an operation on Monday, the official said. Dar, a resident of Baniyapora, was affiliated with LeT, he said.

**Pak Drone Shot Down In Jammu: BSF**

Srinagar: The Border Security Force (BSF) has claimed to have shot down a Pakistani drone in Arnia sector of Jammu region on Monday evening. The drone was spotted by BSF troopers in a forward post in Arnia belt of Jammu. BSF Inspector General, Jammu Frontier, NS Jamwal said it is a drone-like flying object without a camera. "We are investigating it," he said.

**DSP's Arrest Fallout: CRPF Scans Over 3 Lakh Personnel**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**GURGAON:** The CRPF has carried out a mega audit of its over three lakh personnel to check for any possible "subversive" elements in the wake of a Jammu and Kashmir Police officer being caught with militants recently, the chief of the paramilitary force said here on Tuesday.

CRPF Director General (DG) A P Maheshwari said the incident involving Deputy Superintendent of Police Davinder Singh was "grave" and an "area of extreme concern" for the forces, adding that all should see that these things don't occur.

So it was "common sense" to carry out such an audit of its manpower, deployed as the lead force for counter-militancy and anti-Naxal operations across the country, when any incident like this take place, he said.

"If something happens somewhere, it is a case to re-



visit ourselves and that is what we have done. We have no doubts about our personnel," the CRPF chief said. A senior official said the counter-intelligence units of the force were recently asked to check the credentials of the personnel after ●PAGE 06

**A SENIOR OFFICIAL SAID THE COUNTER-INTELLIGENCE** units of the force were recently asked to check the credentials of the personnel after obtaining data from all available sources and they have been asked to be kept on "active mode" for some more time.

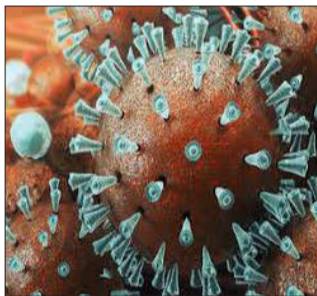
**Coronavirus Alert: J&K Admin Orders Screening At Airports**

Control Rooms To Be Setup; SKIMS, GMCs To Have Isolation Wards

OBSERVER NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU:** The Jammu and Kashmir Administration on Tuesday announced a slew of measures, including screening of fliers arriving from China, Nepal and other countries at the Jammu and Srinagar airports to keep a check on any suspected case of Coronavirus.

As part of an action plan to prevent the spread of the virus in JK, the government ordered establishment of control room



in the office of state surveillance office at Srinagar and Jammu, quarantine of suspected

patients, advisory to all the districts and announcements to be made on railways stations, airports besides other measures.

The decisions in this regard were taken during an extraordinary meeting chaired by Financial Commissioner, Health and Medical Education, Atal Dulloo at Civil Secretariat here to discuss the action plan to check the spread of Coronavirus in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

The newly identified coronavirus called ●PAGE 06

**Bukhari Denies Forming New Political Party**



AGENCIES

**SRINAGAR:** Former PDP Minister Altaf Bukhari, who had met Jammu and Kashmir Lt Governor G.C. Murmu along with other political leaders earlier this month, on Tuesday denied reports that he was floating a new political party.

In a statement, he dismissed such reports as a "figment of imagination". "This news seems to have been floated with a single-minded agenda to mislead and confuse," a spokesperson for Bukhari said.

He said as already informed to media, a "significant number of like-minded friends and political colleagues are in touch with each other and in this context, informal ●PAGE 06

**Situation Along LoC, Hinterland Under Control: Saini**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**NEW DELHI:** The new Vice Chief of Army Staff Lt Gen S K Saini on Tuesday said the situation in Jammu and Kashmir along both the Line of Control and in the hinterland are under control.

Speaking after receiving the Guard of Honour, Saini said the Army was prepared for all challenges.

"Ceasefire violations have gone up last year. We're fully geared up to meet challenges that come across," he said.

He also said removing hol-



lowness in terms of critical deficiencies of equipment, ammunition, capacity development along the Northern borders will be among his priorities. "New structures like ●PAGE 06

**Top Army Officer Visits Police Hqs**

**Jammu:** Northern Army Commander Lt Gen Ranbir Singh visited the police headquarters here on Tuesday and complimented the force for maintaining peace and working alongside other forces ● P06

**Fresh Snowfall Breaks Cold Wave In Kashmir**

AGENCIES

**SRINAGAR:** Srinagar and other parts of Kashmir received fresh snowfall of the season on Tuesday dipping the day temperature sharply, even as the weather department predicted more rain and snow across the Valley during the next 24 hours.

A Met department spokesperson said that heavy snowfall would occur at isolated places while light to moderate snowfall would occur at most places in the valley during the next 24 hours.

Despite improvement, Drass was the coldest place in the region at minus 21.2 degree, fol-

lowed by Leh, where the mercury settled at minus 13.5 degree.

Gulmarg, about 55 km from here in north Kashmir, received fresh snow since early this morning, resulting in further dip in the day temperature. Kongdori and Agharwat, the highest point of the cable car project in Gulmarg, also received moderate to heavy snowfall.

The night temperature in the ski resort improved about 2 degree and settled at minus 8.2 degree. "Despite snow since early this morning, the tourists are out on ski slopes, which are already covered under several feet of snow, enjoying different ●PAGE 06



**Banihal Highway Closed**

**Srinagar:** Traffic on the Srinagar to Jammu highway, the only all weather road connecting Kashmir valley with the rest of the country, was suspended again on Tuesday due to fresh snowfall since early this morning. Traffic was to ply from Jammu to Srinagar today, a traffic police official said. However, all Kashmir bound vehicles have been stopped at Nagrota and Udhampur, he added. He said traffic on the highway was suspended again today following fresh snowfall at Qazigund, both sides of Jawhar Tunnel (JT) and ShaitanNallah. "About six inches of snow has accumulated at Tunnel," he said, adding the road has become very slippery. He said rain also ● P06

**BJP Mocks Omar's Beard, Then Deletes Tweet**

AGENCIES

**NEW DELHI:** In a random move, the Tamil Nadu unit of the BJP mocked former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah for his long beard in a sarcastic tweet before deleting it within an hour.

The tweet had a photo of an Amazon order of five razors dispatched in Abdullah's name to his Gupkar Road residence in Srinagar.

The tweet read: "Dear Omar Abdullah, it is very disheartening to see you like this while most of your corrupt friends are enjoying life outside."

It went on to state: "Kindly accept our sincere contribution, in case of any assistance feel free to contact your counterpart INC for further help in this regard."

Within an hour, the tweet vanished. However, within that



short time, it had 517 retweets and 1,272 'likes'. Sources say, the central leadership did not find the tweet in good taste.

Just a day before R- Day, on January 25, the former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister's latest photograph wearing a woolen cap and sporting a ●PAGE 06

**Preparations In Full Swing For J&K Global Investors Summit**

AGENCIES

**SRINAGAR:** The Lieutenant Governor, Girish Chandra Murmu led administration has begun massive preparations to organise the 'J&K Global Investors Summit-2020' in April to attract investors to the Union Territories of J&K and Ladakh.

The summit, which was earlier scheduled in October last year, could not take place due to uncertain situation on the ground. "Now the preparations are in full swing. In addition to other preparations, we will organize road shows from next month in major cities of the country to invite investors

to invest in the union territory of Jammu and Kashmir." A local newsgathering agency KNS quoted a top government official as saying.

He said that the government is hopeful that the road shows and investors Summit in April will provide an opportunity to allay fears and apprehensions from the minds of outside business community about investment in J&K.

The government has already constituted the Apex Committee for hosting the event.

Sources said that the Apex Committee is responsible for the overall high level coordination necessary for the ●PAGE 06

**VDC Members Demand Wages, Threaten To Quit**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**JAMMU:** Members of the Village Defence Committees (VDCs), which serve as 'security arch' to defend remote and hilly villages against militant attacks in Jammu and Kashmir, on Tuesday threatened to surrender weapons if the government fails to release their pending salaries immediately.

They claimed that they have not been paid salaries for the past over eight months. Led by Jammu Village Defence Committee (JVDC) Association president Bihari Lal Bushan, over 1,000 members, who had come from different parts of Doda, Kishtwar, ●PAGE 06

**SERVALL DENTAL ART**

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