

### Bukhari demands bunkers in all J&K forward areas

SRINAGAR: Expressing deep shock and grief over the death of a civilian in mortar shelling along the Line of Control (LoC) in Kashmir's Kupwara district, former Finance Minister Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari on Tuesday appealed the Centre to sanction funds for immediate construction of underground bunkers in forward areas where bunkers have not been constructed.

In a statement issued, Bukhari while echoing the concerns of former Legislators Raja Manzoor Khan and Javed Ahmad Mirchal, expressed solidarity with the bereaved family of Saleem Ahmed, a 60-year-old civilian, who was killed in the Tadd village of the Karnah sector in Kupwara district on Monday evening.

The former Legislators, while expressing sympathies to the family of another civilian who sustained injury in the incident, prayed for his early recovery. "It is unfortunate that there is no let up in shelling even during the winters, causing more worries to the civilian population living in the border areas of Jammu and Kashmir," they remarked.

Referring to a Defence Ministry report indicating an increase in the incidents of ceasefire violations along the LoC in Jammu and Kashmir since August 2019, Bukhari said that in view of the heightened cross-border shelling, the Centre must sanction and order speedy construction of concrete, underground bunkers for all the left out border areas in the Union Territory, especially in Kupwara, Baramulla and Bandipora districts.

He said that the bunkers have been found to be an effective response to cross-LoC shelling, providing the residents a safe place to save themselves during the shelling incidents.

"The residents of border/LoC areas of Jammu and Kashmir have been the worst victims of hostilities on the India-Pakistan border and along LoC. So all of them should be treated equitably without any feel of discrimination vis-a-vis measures taken for their safety and security," said the former finance minister.



## Power Crisis To End Soon As Alesteng Grid Ready For commissioning

Owais Gul

SRINAGAR: The power crisis in Kashmir would likely come to an end by the end of next week as the much-hyped Alesteng grid station is all set to be commissioned after a week, officials said on Tuesday. Officials in Power Development Department (PDD) told news agency that the work over the Alesteng grid station is in final stage. Notably, the grid station that is set to be commissioned was constructed at the cost of around Rs 109 crore. The Alesteng transmission line would provide additional 280 MW electricity to the Valley which would play a significant role in minimizing the

wide gap between the region's demand and supply, officials said.

Chief Engineer Power Development Department (PDD), Transmission, Hashmat Qazi told KNO that it would take almost a week now to commission the Alesteng grid station, saying that they are currently going ahead with the testing of line. He said that the power shortage in Kashmir will come to an end soon after the transmission line is commissioned. The people across Kashmir at present have been complaining about erratic power supply while the PDD Chief Engineer, Ajjaz Ahmad Dar said that the frequent power cuts are the outcome of the overloading by the

consumers. Asked about change in power schedule in Kashmir, Dar told KNO that a new power schedule will be announced in Kashmir once the Alesteng grid station is commissioned after one week. It is worth to mention here that completion of Alesteng grid station missed multiple deadlines so far. Earlier on December 01, 2019, the Jammu and Kashmir administration had stated that Alesteng grid station will be commissioned by the need of December 2019. However, the completion time was extended with officials, saying the grid station will be commissioned by the end of January this year or up to February 10, 2020. (KNO)

### SHORT TAKES

#### 2 women cops in Kashmir lead fight against drugs

SRINAGAR: Undeterred by the challenges that Kashmir often throws up, two women police officers have launched a crusade to rescue young men from the clutches of drug addiction in the valley.

The lockdown and communication blockade that was imposed in Kashmir after the abrogation of Article 370 seems to have spurred drug addiction among the vulnerable men in Kashmir.

But, two women DSPs Nizla Angmo and Farah Nishat of the Jammu and Kashmir Police have now decided to confront the growing problem head on.

Last month when Angmo led a police party to Nasrullah Pora area in Budgam district to nab drug peddlers, she received a rousing reception from the people in the area.

"The village has been notorious for stone pelting, but I was pleasantly surprised when people came out and cheered us," Angmo said. "They raised slogan in our support and against drug addiction."

Her crusade to rid Nasrullah Pora of drug addiction began after police arrested a notorious drug peddler from the area and seized psychotropic substances like Tramadol, Chlorodiapoxide, Alprazolam and Clonazepam tablets from him.

She said before venturing into the village she met the village elders who gave her a list of 10 people involved in the drug peddling and addiction and urged her to act against them.

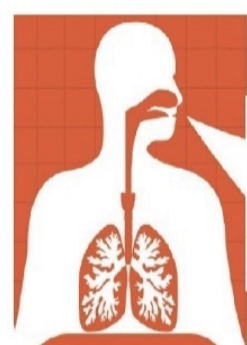
"Half of the addicts have voluntarily admitted themselves in different hospitals," she said. "It was a big encouragement for me the way people supported our move against drug peddlers in that village," the young officer said.

A video showing villagers hailing her has gone viral on the social media and is trending on the Twitter.

She said Kashmir has always been close to her heart. She said when she was selected for the Kashmir Police Service (KPS) in 2018 she opted to train in the valley against her hometown in Leh, Ladakh.

"I requested the DGP twice to allow me to continue my training here and he agreed," she said.

"I wanted to know what is happening in Kashmir and why are people against uniformed people," she said.



## 2019-NOVEL CORONAVIRUS

Coronaviruses cause illness ranging from common cold to more severe diseases such as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS)-CoV and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS-CoV)

Advice for travellers returning from China

### PREVENTIVE MEASURES

If you have recently travelled to China (within last 14 days) or had possible contact with nCoV infected person, it is advised to

- 01 Limit contact with family members and visitors for 14 days. Sleep in a separate room
- 02 Cover nose & mouth while sneezing and coughing
- 03 Wash your hands regularly with soap and water
- 04 Avoid close contact with anyone who has cold or flu

### SYMPTOMS



### PEOPLE AT RISK

- Pregnant Women
- Infants
- Old People
- Immune Deficient Conditions
- Medical & Surgical Illness
- On long term Medication

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