



Maximum : 8°C
Minum : -6°C
Humidity : 90%

SUNSET
Today 06:08 PM
SUNRISE
Tomorrow 07:21 AM

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NEWS/07

SITUATION IN WUHAN 'VERY GRAVE': CHINA PRESIDENT

The situation in Wuhan, the epicenter of the novel coronavirus, is still very grave, Chinese President Xi Jinping warned during a rare visit to frontline medical staff and patients affected by the deadly.....



MASSIVE PREPARATIONS FOR FIRST-EVER INVESTORS SUMMIT IN J&K

Gearing up for hosting first-ever investors summit in Jammu & Kashmir, the government on Tuesday set-up five committees for making the event successful. The general administration department today

08/SPORTS.....

INDIA SUFFER ODI CLEAN SWEEP IN NEW ZEALAND

India suffered a rare series whitewash as New Zealand posted a five-wicket win in the third and final one-day international at Mount Maunganui on Tuesday. A KL Rahul century was not enough



News Digest

Hizb Worker Held In Kishtwar: Police

Jammu: An alleged over-ground worker of Hizbul Mujahideen militant group was arrested in Kishtwar district of Jammu and Kashmir, a police official said on Tuesday. Mohammad Rustam, a resident of Honjala village, was arrested from his village on Monday, the official said. He said the arrested person is being questioned.

Car Skids Off Road In Qazigund, 1 Dead

Srinagar: One person was killed while two others sustained injuries in a road accident in Qazigund area of south Kashmir's Anantnag district, officials said Tuesday. The accident occurred this morning when a vehicle (JK03F-8130) skidded off the road near Toll Post, Qazigund, leaving at least three occupants injured, they said. All the three were removed to the nearby Emergency Hospital Qazigund for treatment. However, the doctors there declared one of the ● P02

3 Drug Peddlers Held In Kashmir: Police

Srinagar: Police on Tuesday claimed to have arrested three drug peddlers from central Kashmir's Budgam district and recovered psychotropic substances from their possession. A police spokesperson said that during routine checking on IG Road, police arrested a drug peddler identified as Irfan Ahmed Dar of Humhama. During investigation, two more people involved in drug peddling were identified, the police spokesperson said. "Both of them arrested from Humhama," the police ● P02

CB Probes Rs 134 Lakh Scholarship Scam

Srinagar: The Crime Branch of Police on Tuesday started a probe into a scholarship racket run by two residents of West Bengal. According to a handout issued here, an official spokesperson said that Crime Branch Kashmir has initiated an enquiry on the basis of a communication received from General Administration Department on the complaint from Ministry of Minority Affairs. The statement said that the enquiry conducted, revealed that allegations ● P02

Man Found Dead In Baderwah

Jammu: A man was found dead under mysterious circumstances on Tuesday in Baderwah area of Doda district in Jammu and Kashmir, police said. The deceased was identified as Kuldeep Kumar 55, son of Ganga Ram, resident of Duddu Baderwah of Doda district. According to police, the body was found in the nallah. The body has been shifted to the Mortuary room Baderwah for legal formalities, they added.

Kejriwal Trounces BJP, Retains Delhi Crown

AAP Wins 62 seats, BJP 8; Cong Again Draws Blank



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI – The Arvind Kejriwal-led Aam Aadmi Party retained power with a stunning victory, winning 62 of the 70 assembly seats and leaving the BJP with just eight seats, and decimating the Congress in a bitterly-fought contest that took place in the midst of massive protests over the new citizenship law.

In a near-repeat performance of 2015, AAP retained power by bagging 62 of the 70 assembly seats. The AAP had bagged 67 seats in 2015.

According to the final votes tally released by the Election Commission, the AAP won in

62 constituencies with a voting percentage of 53.57, while the BJP got eight seats with vote share of 38.51 per cent.

The Congress drew a blank for the second successive assembly elections in Delhi.

The AAP's stupendous victory comes nearly eight months after it suffered a severe drubbing in the Lok Sabha polls in which the party drew a blank while the BJP won all the seven seats.

Among the AAP heavyweights who won the elections after a nail-bitter included Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia, Ragav Chadha and Atishi. Delhi cabinet ministers Gopal Rai, ● PAGE02

I Love You: Kejriwal To People Of Delhi

A new kind of politics has emerged from the Delhi Assembly polls with people rewarding the party which built schools, hospitals and provided cheap electricity round-the-clock, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said on Tuesday, hailing AAP's landslide win as a victory of India.

"Dilliwalon, ghaazab kar diya aapne (Delhiites, you have done the impossible). I love you," Kejriwal, flanked by his wife, daughter and senior party leaders, said in a brief address to joyous supporters and party workers at the ● P02

63 Congress Candidates Lose Deposits

Congress' performance in the Delhi assembly elections touched a record low with the party bagging less than 5 per cent votes and 63 of its candidates losing their deposits.

The party, which ruled Delhi for 15 years on the trot under former chief minister Sheila Dikshit, failed to open its account for the second consecutive time in the Delhi assembly elections. Only three candidates – Arvinder Singh Lovely from Gandhi Nagar, Devender Yadav from Badli ● P02

BJP Puts Up Posters, Accepts Defeat

Soon after the Delhi Assembly poll trends showed that the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) is winning with a clear majority, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) seems to have accepted defeat. The party has put up posters at its Delhi party office saying that it is not discouraged by defeat.

A poster in the Delhi BJP office has a photo of Union Home Minister Amit Shah and reads 'Victory doesn't makes us arrogant, defeat doesn't demoralise us'.

Delhi BJP leader Manoj Yadav said that this is an ● P02

SC To Hear Plea Challenging Omar's Detention Under PSA

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court will hear on Wednesday a plea filed by former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Omar Abdullah's sister challenging his detention under the Jammu and Kashmir Public Safety Act, 1978.

A bench headed by Justice N V Ramana will hear the plea of Sara Abdullah Pilot, who has said that Abdullah's detention is "manifestly illegal" and there is no question of him being a "threat to the maintenance of public order".

The plea has sought quashing of February 5 order detaining Abdullah under the PSA and also sought his production before the court.

Pilot has said that exercise of powers by the authorities under the CRPC to detain individuals, including political leaders, was "clearly mala fide to ensure that the opposition to the abrogation of Article 370 of the Constitution is silenced".

Her plea said the intent of exercise of power was to ● PAGE02



File Pic

Chidambaram Mocks Grounds Of Detention

Senior Congress leader P Chidambaram took a dig at the dossiers prepared by the J-K Police for applying the stringent Public Safety Act (PSA) against Kashmiri leaders Omar Abdullah and Mehbooba Mufti, saying whoever drafted those documents deserved to be sacked and sent to law school. Former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Omar Abdullah's "considerable influence" over people, including the ability to attract voters to polling booths ● P02

NIA Quizzes Cong Leader Saroori

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

JAMMU: The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Tuesday questioned senior Congress leader and former minister G M Saroori in connection with its probe into militant attacks in Kishtwar district of Jammu and Kashmir.

Saroori, 67, who is Jammu and Kashmir Congress vice president and three-time legislator from Indermal constituency of Kishtwar, was served a notice under Section 160 CrPC by the NIA, asking him to appear before it to answer "certain questions" relating to a case registered by the probe agency in the district in 2018.

"The questioning lasted for nearly one-and-a-half hour from 3.30 pm and my father assured full support to the NIA in its probe. He reached the office at the scheduled time at 11 am but the investigating officer was late," Shariq Saroori, the son of the Congress leader said.

Shariq said his father made it clear to the NIA that his family is nationalist by core and their house is guarded by the CRPF round-the-clock, when he was asked about the disclosure made by some ● P02

Akhtar Slapped With PSA For Recommending Geelani's Book



File Pic

AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: Senior PDP leader Naeem Akhtar was booked under the stringent Public Safety Act for exhorting people to read Hurriyat Conference (G) Chairman Syed Ali Geelani's book while he was the state's education minister, among other reasons, according to a dossier.

He was also booked for terming BJP leader and Union Home Minister Amit Shah's West Bengal poll speech as an "open call for a Hindu Rashtra".

The dossier said PSA was slapped on Akhtar as he had alleged that BJP is playing a dangerous game for electoral gains in the country and inciting communal hatred to win elections.

"The subject in order to achieve nefarious designs has been since long giving such statements which are not only instigating general public to rise against Union of India but are also of such nature which instigate disgruntled elements to

indulge in violence and illegal activities like stone pelting so as to keep peace distant," the dossier reads.

It said the statements of Akhtar are indicative of the fact that he is bent upon not allowing public order to return and to disturb the peace process.

"His leaning towards radical elements can be gathered from his statement in which he as education minister advised people to read separatist leader Syed Ali Shah Geelani's book "Wullar Kinarey", it said.

The dossier states that reports collected from discreet sources reveal that Akhtar is reported to have called on the youth to continue unlawful activities and aroused anti-India sentiments.

Akhtar had also hit out at the government over the National Investigation Agency summoning separatist leader Mirwaiz Umar Farooq to New Delhi alleging that it was "aimed at hurting the sentiments of lakhs of Muslims in Kashmir."

HIS LEANING TOWARDS RADICAL elements can be gathered from his statement in which he as education minister advised people to read separatist leader Syed Ali Shah Geelani's book "Wullar Kinarey"

Kashmir Shuts Down On Maqbool Bhat's Death Anniversary

Internet Snapped Across Valley For 7 Hours



Pic Abid Bhat

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

SRINAGAR: Authorities on Tuesday snapped mobile internet services in Kashmir as a precautionary measure to prevent

any law and order disturbance on the 36th death anniversary of JKLF founder Mohammad Maqbool Bhat, officials said.

Mobile internet services were suspended early ● PAGE02

Fresh Snowfall In Upper Reaches, Rain In Plains

AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: After witnessing pleasant weather during the last week, the world famous ski resort of Gulmarg received fresh snowfall on Tuesday while rain lashed plains of Kashmir valley, resulting in chilly weather conditions.

However, the night temperature improved and settled above normal at majority of the places in the valley, where there is prediction of wet weather during the next 48 hours.

A Met department spokes-

person said that light snowfall would occur at some places in the valley during the next two days. "A fresh Western Disturbance (WD), which hit the region on Tuesday, will gain momentum and result in light to heavy snowfall on Wednesday and Thursday in most places in the valley," he added.

Gulmarg, about 55 km from here in north Kashmir, received fresh light snowfall in the evening, resulting in dip in the day temperature. Kongdori and Apherwat, the highest point of the cable car ● PAGE02

JK Govt Reclaims Land In Amritsar After 56 Years

OBSERVER NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI: The J&K government has wrested the control of a prized piece of land in Punjab's Amritsar city which was under illegal occupation for nearly 56 years.

The Resident Commission of Jammu & Kashmir Government took over the possession of 20 Kanals of Land, situated at Daim Gunj, Dhapa Road, Amritsar on February 10, 2020, an official spokesperson said Tuesday..

The land comprising falling under Khassra Nos: 756; 761; 780; 781; 782 & 792, had been under illegal Occupation since 1964.

A decree in the case was in-



stituted in 2006 by Jammu and Kashmir government but the Execution Petition was initiated in 2017 only which was fast-tracked and followed vigorously during

the last one and a half years. A chunk of land comprising 32 Kanals, situated at Daim Gunj, Dhapa Road Amritsar and belonging to then ● PAGE02

Financial Inclusion Outreach Campaign Launched In J&K

AGENCIES

JAMMU: J&K Lieutenant Governor Girish Chandra Murmu on Tuesday launched the financial inclusion outreach campaign with special focus on extending banking services to all unbanked areas and opening of bank accounts for unbanked adults under PMJDY.

The campaign also focuses on enrolments under PMSBY and PMJJBY, outreach for Mudra Yojna, housing loans, other retail loans, credit linkage with SHGs, RSETIs and other skilling centres in J&K and issuance of KCCs to all eligible beneficiaries.

During his address, Murmu said that promoting financial inclu-



sion means taking actions which result in expanding people's access to the services offered by the formal financial sector.

He said the issue of promoting the inclusion of people's economic activity into the financial system has profound ● PAGE02