



Maximum : 10°C  
Minum : -1°C  
Humidity : 58%

SUNSET  
Today 06:23 PM  
SUNRISE  
Tomorrow 07:05 AM

# OBSERVER

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.....LIFE & TIMES/ 08

**WALKERS MAY USE STEP SYNCHRONISATION AS NON-VERBAL COMMUNICATION: STUDY**  
Walkers may use step synchronisation as a form of non-verbal social communication, according to a study which suggests that the activity may reveal the psychological effects of movement interaction between humans.



**VIOLENCE IN DELHI AS ANTI & PRO CAA GROUPS CLASH; COP KILLED**  
A Delhi Police constable was killed and several others, including a DCP, were injured Monday as clashes broke out in northeast Delhi for the second consecutive day as pro and anti-Citizenship Amendment Act protesters.....

11/SPORTS.....

**I-LEAGUE: REAL KASHMIR STAY IN TOP HALF WITH 1-0 WIN OVER INDIAN ARROWS**

Real Kashmir bounced back from two consecutive defeats as they beat Indian Arrows by a solitary goal to remain in the top half of the I-League points table on Monday. Ivorian midfielder Bazie Armand scored the all-important goal .....

## News Digest

### Man Ends Life In Kulgam

Srinagar: A man allegedly committed suicide by hanging himself outside his house in Kulgam district of south Kashmir, official sources said Monday. 36-year-old Shabir Ahmed Itoo was found hanging from a tree outside his house in Guddar village of Kulgam this morning, they said. His family rushed him to the District Hospital Kulgam where doctors declared him brought dead. Shabir was working as a labour, sources said. Meanwhile, police have registered a case under section 174 CrPc and started further investigations in this regard.

### Jammu Lawyer Found Murdered

Jammu: A senior, city-based lawyer was found murdered inside his house here on Monday, police said, suspecting the involvement of his domestic help, who is missing. Reyaz Ahmad Buchh, the husband of Power Development Department's retired chief engineer Shenaz Goni, was alone at his Greater Kailash residence when the incident took place, a police official said. He said a police party rushed to the house after getting information about the murder and sent his body for postmortem. Preliminary investigations suggest the deceased had a scuffle with his killer before he was apparently strangled to death. ● P10

### Unknown Men Thrash BJP Worker

Srinagar: Unidentified persons on Sunday thrashed a Bharatiya Janta Party (BJP) worker at her house in Bandipora district of north Kashmir. Unknown masked men barged into the house of a BJP lady worker identified as Naheeda Qomar, wife of Yasir Ahmad of Bankoot last night and thrashed her severely, officials told a local newsgathering agency KNO today. Due to the beating, Naheeda sustained injuries and was removed to the district hospital for treatment. Her condition is said to be stable. The BJP worker had received injuries in her head, doctors said. Meanwhile, police said that they have no information ● P10

### Advisor Khan Meets LG

Jammu: Farooq Khan, Advisor to the Lieutenant Governor on Monday called upon the Lieutenant Governor, Girish Chandra Murmu here at the Raj Bhavan. The LG and the Advisor discussed wide ranging issues of urgent administrative importance. The Advisor also briefed Murmu about the functioning of the departments under his responsibility. "They further discussed about various issues relating to the developmental scenario of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir," an official spokesperson said. The LG stressed on the vital importance of responsive and accountable administrative machinery working efficiently towards discharge of its duties.

## Donald Trump Announces \$3 Billion Defence Deal With India



AGENCIES

**NEW DELHI: India and the United States will sign two defence deals worth \$3 billion in Delhi on Tuesday, US President Donald Trump said on Monday.**

The defence deals pertain to the sale of 24 MH-60R helicopters for the Indian Navy and six AH-64E Apache helicopters for the Army.

"As we continue to build our defence cooperation, the US

looks forward to providing India with some of the best and most-feared military equipment on the planet. We make the greatest weapons ever made. We make the best and we are dealing now with India," the US President said while speaking at the Motera stadium in Ahmedabad after landing in the Gujarat city earlier. "I am pleased to announce that tomorrow, our representatives will sign deals to sell for over \$3 billion the finest, ►PAGE 10

### India, US Working To Defend People From Terrorism: Trump

India and the US are working to defend their people from the threat of terrorism and boost defence cooperation, US President Donald Trump said on Monday, asserting that his country loves India and will remain its "loyal" friend. In an address to a huge cheering crowd at the "Namaste Trump" event here, the US president, who arrived with his wife Melania and was received by Prime Minister Narendra Modi ● P10

### And Trumps Ate No Gujarati Food

United States President Donald Trump and First Lady Melania Trump did not eat anything, including Gujarati delicacy Khaman which was part of the high tea menu, during their visit to the Sabarmati Ashram in Ahmedabad on Monday afternoon, its trustee said. Trump and the First Lady visited the Ashram in afternoon for about 15 minutes ● P10

### 'India, US Share Relationship Of Bigotry, Says Amnesty

The shared values between India and the US are "discrimination, bigotry, and hostility towards refugees and asylum seekers", Amnesty International USA said in a joint statement with Amnesty International India ahead of US President Donald Trump's visit to India on Monday. Trump, accompanied by his wife Melania, daughter ● P10

### Siddaramaiah Dares BJP To Hold Trump Event In Kashmir

Raising questions about the situation in Kashmir, senior Congress leader and former Karnataka chief minister Siddaramaiah on Monday asked the BJP heading the union government to prove 'normalcy' by hosting US President Donald Trump's event in the valley. If @BJP4India feels Kashmir has returned to Normalcy, & If @BJP4India feels that there is no govt orchestrated violence. Now is the time to prove the same by hosting @realDonaldTrump's event at Kashmir, Siddaramaiah tweeted. Amid concerns raised by opposition parties, the government has said efforts have been made ● P10

## Security Beefed Up In Kashmir In View Of Trump's India Visit

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**SRINAGAR:** Security has been increased across Kashmir as a precautionary measure in view of US President Donald Trump's two-day visit to India, which began on Monday, officials said. "In view of the incidents that have taken place in Kashmir ahead of high profile visits to the country, security has been strengthened in the Valley," a senior police officer said. In March 2000, 35 Sikhs in

Chatisinghpura village in Anantnag district were killed during the visit of former US president Bill Clinton to India. Days later, army claimed to have killed five militants responsible for carrying out massacre of the Sikh community members. However, all of them turned out to be innocent civilians.

The official said additional personnel from the police and paramilitary forces have been deployed here and elsewhere in the Kashmir Valley to ►PAGE 10

## Govt Working On Kashmiri Pandits Return: BJP Leader

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**JAMMU:** The government is working on the return of migrant Kashmiri pandits to the Valley soon with honour and dignity in a secured environment, said a senior BJP leader.

BJP general secretary (Organisation) Ashok Koul also asked the displaced community to get ready for the return for which they have been waiting for the last three decades. "It should be clear to all that

the migrant Pandits have to return to the Valley. The government is going to take a call on it very soon," said Koul.

He was speaking at an annual award distribution function organized by Harmukh Ganga (Gangbal) Trust (HGGT) in association with All Parties Migrants Coordination Committee (APMCC) here on Sunday evening.

The HGGT annually honours prominent personalities among Kashmiri pandits and their organizations in recognition of ►PAGE 10

## Students Return To Schools In Kashmir After 7 Months

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**SRINAGAR:** Donning uniforms after nearly seven months, thousands of students on Monday turned up at their schools that re-opened across the Kashmir Valley after remaining shut since August last due to the situation following abrogation of Article 370 and winter vacation. All security arrangements were put in place for the students to attend schools, officials said.

The students were happy to be back at the schools after remaining home all these months.

It is a good feeling to be back at the school, to attend my class, in fact a new class, after so ►PAGE 10



Pic. Abid Bhat

## Indo, Pak Troops Trade Fire Along LoC



File Pic.

OBSERVER NEWS SERVICE

**SRINAGAR:** After a day's lull, India and Pakistan troops on Monday again traded gunfire along the Line of Control (LoC) in Poonch district of Jammu and Kashmir.

According to sources, Pakistani troops resorted to unprompted firing across the LoC in Qasba and Kerni sectors of Poonch district.

Firing which started on Monday afternoon was still going on from both sides, sources said.

They said Indian army was giving a befitting response to Pakistani aggression.

On Saturday, Pakistan had resorted to ceasefire violation

in the same sectors.

Earlier this month, a 60-year-old civilian was killed and three others were injured in Pakistani firing at the LoC in the Shahpur sector of Poonch.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh early this month said that Pakistan army was involved in a total of 3,479 ceasefire violations along the Jammu and Kashmir border in 2019.

In a written reply to a question in Rajya Sabha, Rajnath Singh had said that 13 Indian Army personnel and two soldiers of the Border Security Force (BSF) were killed in action in 2019 due to ceasefire violations (CFVs) and cross border firing (CBF).

### Army Chief To Visit Kashmir Today

Amid frequent skirmishes at the borders, Army Chief General MM Naravane will visit Kashmir on Tuesday to review the ongoing security situation and counter-militancy operations in the Valley, Army sources said on Monday. During the visit starting tomorrow, Gen Naravane will also visit the Indian Army positions on the LoC and he would be briefed by senior military commanders on the overall situation in the Kashmir valley. Earlier on Sunday, Jammu and Kashmir DGP Dilbag Singh had said that Pakistan has increased ceasefire violations along the Line of Control (LoC). He said that Indian forces have been successful in ● P10

## BSNL Can Run Broadband Services If Firewall Installed: IGP

AGENCIES

**SRINAGAR:** A senior police officer on Monday asserted that government-run BSNL can restart its broadband services in Kashmir valley if it installs firewall to stop social media, which has been used in the past to instigate violence and spread rumours.

Meanwhile, sources in the state-run telecom company told newsgathering agency UNI that the services will be restored very soon as the firewall has been put in place and tests are being run on its efficiency.

The high speed internet and broadband service remained suspended in the valley since August 5, when centre abrogated special status and divided the state into two Union Territories (UTs).

However, 2G internet service on pre and post paid



File Pic.

mobile phones of all Cellular companies continued in the Kashmir valley, where people are able to assess only whitelisted sites approved by the UT administration.

"All the high speed internet and broadband service providers in the valley have been asked to start services once they install firewall to stop social media and use of VPN apps," Inspector General of Police (IGP) Vijay Kumar said.

He further said once BSNL installs the firewall, it is free to start broadband internet ►PAGE 10

## MeT Predicts Wet Spell Across Valley From Friday

AGENCIES

**SRINAGAR:** The weather department on Monday predicted another spell of snow and rain across Valley from Friday under the influence of a fresh Western Disturbance (WD) that will hit the region on Thursday.

A Met department spokesperson said that weather will mainly remain dry during the next 24 hours in Kashmir valley. However, he said a fresh WD, which originated from the Arabian sea and is approaching the region through Afghanistan and Pakistan, will hit J&K on Thursday.

"A weather warning has been issued for Friday and Saturday during which heavy rain and snow would occur at isolated places and light to moderate rain and snow at most places under the influence of this WD in the valley," he added.

In the capital city Srinagar, people woke up to a chilly Monday morning after witnessing slight improvement in the night temperature. However, as the day progressed sun came out from behind the clouds, resulting in major improvement in the day temperature though ice cold winds continued. ►PAGE 10

## Right To Dissent Is Essential To Democracy: SC Judge 'Govt Has No Right To Stifle, Quell Peaceful Protests'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

**NEW DELHI:** Supreme Court Judge Justice Deepak Gupta said on Monday that right to dissent is essential for democracy and criticism of the executive, judiciary, bureaucracy and the Armed Forces cannot be termed "anti-national".

The right to dissent is the "biggest" and "most important right" granted by the Constitution and it includes the right to criticise, he said. "There can be no democracy without dissent."

Justice Gupta said that as long

as a person does not break the law or encourage strife, he has a right to differ from every other citizen as also those in power, and propagate his belief.

Justice Gupta, while giving a lecture at an event - "Democracy and Dissent" -- organised by Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) -- said everyone ►PAGE 10

### SC Collegium Approves 3 Judicial Officers As Judges Of J&K HC

The Supreme Court Collegium has approved the proposal for appointment of three judicial officers as Judges of Jammu and Kashmir High Court. The officers are -- Vinod Chatterji Koul, Sanjay Dhar and Puneet Gupta. The collegium, headed by Chief Justice of India S A Bobde, in a meeting on February 19, also recommended the proposal for elevation of Satya Gopal Chattopadhyay, judicial officer, ● P10

## ...KARNATAKA SEDITION ROW

## Lawyers of Kashmiri Students Heckled At Court

OBSERVER NEWS SERVICE

**BENGALURU:** A team of three lawyers from Bengaluru who had gone to Dharwad in north Karnataka to represent three Kashmiri students charged with sedition were heckled, shouted at and threatened on Monday, media reports said.

Talib Majeed, Basit Asif Sofi and Amir Mohiuddin Wani, studying at KLE Institute of Technology in Hubballi district of Karnataka were arrested last Saturday for allegedly raising

pro-Pakistan slogans and posting a video on social media. The trio hailing from Shopian district of Valley were let off next day after they executed a bond under 169 CrPc. However, hours later they were rearrested after right-wing organisations staged protests against their release.

According to a report by News 18, the Bengaluru-based lawyers who were taken amid heavy security to the Dharwad court, came under attack and had to be taken away in the afternoon to the government's ►PAGE 10