

Maximum : 31°C
Minimum : 17°C
Humidity : 44%
SUNSET
Today 07:46 PM
SUNRISE
Tomorrow 05:23 AM

News Digest

Pak PM Moves UN Over J&K Domicile Issue

Islamabad: Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan said on Tuesday that he has approached the UN over the issue of the grant of domicile certificates by India to the people not originally from Jammu and Kashmir. As per the new domicile law, non-permanent residents who have residency proof of at least 15 years in Jammu and Kashmir are entitled to get domicile certificates. "I have approached UN Secretary General and am reaching out to other world leaders..." Khan tweeted. Pakistan has been unsuccessfully trying to drum up international support against ● P-02

Gunfight Breaks Out In Tral

Srinagar: A gunfight broke out on Tuesday between militants and government forces in Tral area of South Kashmir's Pulwama district. An official said that a joint team of Police, army's 42 RR and CRPF launched a cordon and search operation in Brant-Talran specific information about the presence of militants in the area. He said that as the joint team of forces approached towards the suspected spot, the hiding militants fired upon them which was retaliated triggering an encounter. A senior police officer also confirmed the exchange of fire between forces and militants. ● P-02

Infiltration Bid Foiled In Kupwara: Army

Srinagar: Army on Tuesday claimed to have foiled an infiltration bid by a group of militants along the Line of Control (LoC) in north Kashmir's Kupwara district. According to an army spokesperson, a group of militants tried to sneak into the Valley through LoC in Parkian Gali Sector of the frontier district before the soldiers pushed them back. "On night of 29/30 Jun 2020, suspicious movement of 6-8 persons was observed in two groups in Parkian Gali Sector, Kupwara (J&K) along the LoC. Own troops challenged the infiltrators ● P-02

BSF Officer Falls Off Building, Dies

Srinagar: An Assistant sub-inspector (ASI) of Border Security Force (BSF) died on Tuesday after he fell from a building in central Kashmir's Ganderbal district. ASI Rampal of BSF 169 Battalion, posted at Sainik School Manasbal fell from a building, leaving him severely wounded, officials said. The injured BSF man was shifted to PHC Kachan where doctors declared him brought dead. An official said that all the medical formalities have been completed and the body will be shifted to Humama base camp. He said that the body will be later airlifted to his home in Rajasthan—(KNO)

Youth 'Strangulates' Self

Srinagar: A youth allegedly committed suicide on Tuesday by hanging himself to death in Bemina area of Srinagar. The 25-year-old Altaf Ahmad Gujjar of Aripal area of Tral allegedly hanged himself to death on the second floor of the newly constructed maternity Hospital at Bemina Srinagar. Meanwhile, police has recovered the body and has started investigation in this regard—(KNO)

Cross-LoC Shelling Continues In North Kashmir

SRINAGAR: India and Pakistan troops on Tuesday traded heavy gunfire along the Line of Control (LoC) in Naugam sector of north Kashmir's Baramulla district. "On 30 Jun 2020 in the morning hours, Pakistan started unprovoked ceasefire violence (CFV) along the LOC in Naugam Sector, Baramulla (J&K) by firing mortars and other weapons. Be-fitting response is being given," army's Chinar Corps said in a Tweet. The fresh exchange of fire along the LoC comes a day after the two armies clashed in Tangdhar sector of the neighbouring Kupwara district. There has been a sharp increase in cross-LoC shelling in Jammu and Kashmir past three weeks. On June 20, five civilians, including two minors were injured in ● PAGE 02

...LADAKH STAND-OFF

India, China Corps Commanders Meet Remains Inconclusive

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Indian and Chinese militaries on Tuesday held an over 10-hour Corps Commander-level dialogue with a focus on finalising modalities for the disengagement of troops from various stand-off points in eastern Ladakh, and explored ways to ease tension in the region, government sources said.

In the meeting, the Indian delegation conveyed concerns over China's "new claim lines" in the region and demanded restoration of status quo ante as well as immediate withdrawal of Chinese troops from Galwan Valley, Pangong Tso and a number of other areas, they said.

The talks took place on the Indian side of Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Chushul sector in eastern Ladakh. The meeting began at 11 AM and was continuing beyond 9 PM, the sources said.

The Indian delegation at the meeting was headed by 14 Corps Commander Lt Gen Harinder Singh while the Chinese side was led by the Commander ● PAGE 02



Image for representation

China Voices Concern Over Apps Ban

A day after India banned 59 apps with Chinese links for engaging in activities which are "prejudicial to sovereignty and integrity" of the country, ● P-02

Cong Attacks PM For Skipping China In His Speech

Accusing Prime Minister Narendra Modi of doing headline management, the Congress on Tuesday said his address to the nation was "much ado ● P-02

Covid-19 Guidelines Extended In J&K Till July 3

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir government on Tuesday extended Covid-19 guidelines across the Union Territory till July 3, officials said. In an order issued here today, the State Executive Committee said the guidelines or instructions issued on June 7 with regard to lockdown would continue until July 3, an official spokesperson said. He said that the guidelines cum restrictions issued vide Order No. 59 & 61-JK- (DMRRR) of 2020 dated 07.06.2020 ● PAGE 02

Militants Responsible For Bijbehara Attack Killed: Police

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Police on Tuesday claimed to have killed two militants responsible for shootout in south Kashmir's Bijbehara town in which a CRPF personal and minor were killed.

Special operations group (SOG) of police, army's 3RR and CRPF laid a cordon around Waghama in Anantnag on Tuesday morning on a specific input regarding the presence of militants in the village, a police spokesperson said. The state forces gave surrender offer to the holed up militants when their presence in the village was ascertained. "However they fired indiscrimi-



Pic: Shashank Jindal

3 'Militants' Chargesheeted In Lal Chowk Attack Case

Jammu and Kashmir police on Tuesday filed a charge sheet against the three alleged militants involved in a grenade attack in this capital city in February this year. In a handout issued today, a police spokesperson said that charge sheet was submitted before the TADA court against the three militants, who carried out an attack on a CRPF party near Pratap Park on February 2, 2020 leaving two paramilitary men and five ● P-02

Geelani's Mission Has Failed, Says DGP Dilbagh Singh

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Director General of Police Dilbag Singh on Tuesday said the dissociation of Syed Ali Shah Geelani from Hurriyat Conference was reflective of his "frustration and the negative approach".

He also said the security agencies are working hard to make more areas militancy free to relieve people of the "oppression and atrocities" by militants but said no time frame could be set to make the Kashmir Valley violence-free as Pakistan is

continuously making attempts to push in armed militants. "Geelani disassociated himself from the Hurriyat Conference yesterday and in his letter he acknowledged of having caused huge loss of life and property to the people over the years and the mission he wants to follow has failed," the police chief told reporters after inaugurating a women's police station in Rajouri district. He said Geelani's admission that the people associated with the Hurriyat used its platform for personal gains was ● PAGE 02

...FRATRICIDAL KILLINGS Court Gives Life Term To CRPF Man For Killing 3 Colleagues

SRINAGAR: A local court on Tuesday awarded life imprisonment to a CRPF personal for killing three of his colleagues and injuring another in a fit of rage in Kulgam district of south Kashmir nine years ago.

After hearing the case for nine years, the Sessions Court Kulgam convicted Sanjay Kumar for fratricidal killing and sentenced him to life imprisonment, reports said. The accused was in police custody all these years and he will spend the quantum of punishment in the jail.

In 2011, Kumar shot dead three colleagues and injured another inside the barrack of CRPF 18 battalion in Kulgam town following ● P-02

Covid-19 Death Toll Crosses 100 Mark In J&K As 5 More Succumb



Health workers carrying body of a Covid-19 deceased for final rites.

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Coronavirus related deaths crossed 100 mark in Jammu and Kashmir as five more people on Tuesday died of Covid-19, taking the total number of fatalities across the Union Territory to 101.

Among the fresh fatalities, four were reported from Kashmir Valley while one was from Jammu division's Kathua district.

Two of the deaths in Valley took place in CD hospital here—one of them a 23-year-old youth from Shopian and another, a 65-year-old woman, from Baghat Barzulla.

Medical Superintendent CD hospital, one of the exclusive facilities

60 CRPF Men, 11 Cops Among 260 New Cases

At least sixty CRPF personnel, eleven cops and two soldiers on Tuesday tested positive for coronavirus in Jammu and Kashmir, raising the count of infected persons in the Union Territory to 7,497 "260 new Covid-19 cases were detected in J&K. While ● P-02

for the management of Covid-19 patients said that the ● PAGE 02

HE WAS HAVING HEAD INJURY WAS in serious condition," he said, adding, "The 65-year-old woman from Baghat Barzulla was on ventilator. She was hypertensive, diabetic and had other ailments."

No Case Of Covid-19 Among Inmates In 14 J&K Jails: DG Prisons

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: There is no case of COVID-19 among the 3,628 prisoners lodged in 14 jails across Jammu and Kashmir, Director General of Prisons V K Singh said on Tuesday, attributing it to the prevention measures taken by officials.

He also said that currently, 150 new prisoners are undergoing mandatory 14-day quarantine within jail premises. None of them have tested positive for the novel coronavirus, Singh said.

"We have no case of COVID-19 among prisoners as well as jail staff and we are hopeful there will be none in the future given

the preventive measures taken by the department for the safety of inmates," he told reporters at the Jammu District Jail.

The prisons department is following government approved standard operating procedures (SOPs) strictly to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic, the DG said.

Singh said that the SOPs were proposed to the government soon after the outbreak of the novel coronavirus and they were implemented immediately after approval. "We also incorporated good practices adopted by other states," he said, adding that procedures are being followed by jail staff and prisoners. ● PAGE 02

Govt Orders Speeding Up Land Cases Of Central Forces

Observer News Service

JAMMU: The divisional administration on Tuesday asked officials to expedite pending land acquisition and requisition cases of the BSF, CRPF and SSB in Jammu province at the earliest.

According to an official spokesperson, Divisional Commissioner, Sanjeev Verma, today convened a meeting of concerned officers to review the status of land acquisition cases of BSF, CRPF and SSB. In the meeting, he said Verma sought case wise detail of land acquisition, requisition cases and



Divisional Commissioner, Sanjeev Verma land cases of central forces in Jammu on Tuesday. Pic, DIPR

asked the concerned officers for resolving all the pending land ac-

quisition and requisition cases of BSF, CRPF, and SSB at ● PAGE 02

Has Civil Services Exam Become A Herculean Task For Kashmiris?

Jyotsna Bharti

SRINAGAR: Someone who's born and brought up in Kashmir, said Mubeen Khan, knows the value of education because it doesn't come easy.

"We've to face a lot of obstacles on the political and personal front to come up and study hard," said Khan, a 23-year-old graduate from Srinagar, currently trying his luck in Civil Services Exam.

"I always wanted to write UPSC [Union Public Service Commission] exam, but despite being a topper all my life, I've failed this time. There's no availability of high-speed internet and access to classrooms due to constant lockdown. I don't know what's there in store for Kashmiri students!"

Like Khan, many other Kashmiri



Image for representation

students want to fight their circumstances to fulfill their career dreams. But most of them find themselves at the crossroads due to the recurrent situation back home.

"Problem is," said Asim Mohammad, a UPSC exam trainer from Sri-

nagar, "while candidates from other states are coming in droves to fill the IAS/IPS vacancies in Jammu and Kashmir every year, our own students are lagging behind. Politics has marred their career prospects. This trend should concern all of us and we should start raising this question,

as why these exams have become herculean tasks for natives."

This concern is being voiced when Jammu and Kashmir has already emerged as the region with the highest unemployment rate in North India. It has the eighth-highest unemployment rate in India, according to the survey released by the Labour Bureau under the Union Ministry of Labour and Employment. Adding to that, the constant lockdowns and internet blockade has made these exams a distant dream.

"We don't have the opportunity of having any IT jobs in Kashmir because of the obvious reasons," said Rameez Bhat, an IAS aspirant from Anantnag. "Also, after seeing corruption, faults in the management and government, most of us want to join UPSC and aim ● PAGE 02

Imran Blames India For Attack On Pak Stock Exchange Agencies

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's Prime Minister Imran Khan blamed Monday's attempted siege of the nation's stock exchange on India, ratcheting up the war of words between the two nuclear-armed neighbors.

Khan told lawmakers in parliament that India was "no doubt" involved in the attacks. He didn't give any evidence, and reiterated comments made by Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi on Monday. The raid on the bourse in Karachi left four security personnel dead. All four gunmen were also killed.

India's foreign ministry spokesperson rejected the accusation made by Qureshi on Monday, calling them "absurd."

India and the U.S. see Pakistan as providing safe haven for militant



groups and say that the leadership of groups such as Jaish-e-Mohammed and Lashkar-e-Taiba, which carried out the Mumbai attacks in 2008, still live freely in Pakistan. While Pakistan says India is funding militants in the restive Balochistan province.

Balochistan Liberation Army claimed responsibility for the attack at the exchange on Monday, Associated Press reported. ● PAGE 02