



Maximum : 33°C
Minimum : 19°C
Humidity : 53%

SUNSET
Today 07:21 PM
SUNRISE
Tomorrow 05:50 AM



News Digest

J&K Bank Warns Against Fake Job Letters

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir Bank on Tuesday cautioned people about the fake appointment orders issued by some miscreants who are trying to befool the gullible people by issuing such fake appointment letters. Notably the advertisement for recruitment of Banking Associates and Probationary officers has already been made public and it is reiterated in the statement that the recruitment process shall be carried out in a fair manner, the bank spokesperson said. "In the light of such mischievous acts of some vested interests, people in general are solemnly advised to beware of such criminal elements" P-02

4.85 Lakh Apply For Class IV Jobs In J&K

Jammu: The Jammu and Kashmir Services Selection Board (JKSSB) on Tuesday said 4.85 lakh online registration applications have been submitted for Class 4 job vacancies in the union territory. Since the commencement of the online application submission on 10 July till Tuesday morning, 4,85,010 registrations have been done by the candidates on JKSSB's online portal, they said. Of these, 2,54,100 candidates have completed the online application submission process, the officials said. Besides, 74,600 applications have been submitted online P-02

Militant, 4 OGWs Held In Kupwara: Police

Srinagar: Police on Tuesday claimed to have arrested a Hizbul Mujahideen militant and four alleged over-ground workers from north Kashmir's Kupwara district. Acting on a credible information regarding Cross-LOC smuggling of weapons and war like stores by militant associates and their further delivery to active militants, a joint operation was carried out during late hours last night by Kupwara Police, 28 RR and 162 BN CRPF, a police spokesperson said Tuesday. During the search operation, the spokesperson said that Hizb militant P-02

CASO Carried Out In Budgam

Srinagar: Government forces on Tuesday carried out a cordon and search operation (CASO) in Pakharpora area of Central Kashmir's Budgam district. A joint team of state forces including army's 53 RR, SOG & 181 of CRPF launched CASO jointly after getting the specific information about the suspicious movement in Shankerpora village of Pakharpora, news agency KNS reported. However, there were no reports of anyone being arrested during the CASO that continued for some time.

Son Killed, Father Hurt In Sopore Mishap

Srinagar: A minor boy was killed while his father was injured in an accident in Jalalabad area of Sopore in Baramulla district on Tuesday. Mushtaq Ahmad Warpora and his son Faisal were critically injured after the Scooty they were traveling on was hit by a speedy Car at Jalalabad area of Sopore, officials said. The injured persons were rushed to Sub District Hospital (SDH) Sopore for treatment. However, the doctors there referred Faisal to SKIMS Soura where he succumbed to his injuries. P-02

Abdullahs' Plea For Release Of 16 NC Leaders

J&K Admin Tells HC None Of Them Detained

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir administration has informed the high court that none of the 16 National Conference leaders, for whom the party's president Farooq Abdullah and vice president Omar Abdullah had filed a bunch of habeas corpus petitions seeking their release, had been detained and that they were free to move "with certain precautions" as deemed fit for their security. Filing responses to the pleas before the Jammu and Kashmir High Court, senior additional advocate general Bashir Ahmad Dar said it was "not only surprising but shocking as well" as there was neither any legal proceedings underway nor was being contemplated.

The similarly worded replies, which have been vetted by the Inspector General of Police (Kashmir Range), however, said that in wake of constitutional amendments carried out in August last year, "it was apprehended that inimical elements may disturb the peace" and the leaders "may provoke them to cause aggravation in the disturbance".

However, no order of detention either under preventive detention law or substantive law was issued against any of the leaders, it said, adding they were free to move with certain precautions "as deemed fit" for their security.

The reply said that the petitioner being a categorised person has been advised not to visit any vulnerable areas without informing the P-02

SHOPIAN 'FAKE ENCOUNTER'

Police To Conduct DNA Tests To Probe Families Claim

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: A day after three families from Rajouri claimed their three kin were killed in a stage managed gunfight in Shopian last month; the Jammu and Kashmir police said on Tuesday that DNA sampling of the alleged militants will be done for matching purpose and other aspects will be probed as per the law.

In a statement issued here on Tuesday, a police spokesperson said that some families have approached Rajouri police claiming that their kin had gone to Shopian for labour work and contacted on phone on 17th July. He said the families lodged missing report at police post Peeru on August 10, after the boys, according to the families remained out of contact.

"Meanwhile social media reported that the terrorists killed in an operation at Shopian on 18/07/2020 are reportedly their kin. Police had provided sufficient time for identification of bodies at PCR Kashmir Srinagar. However, the bodies could not be identified and they were buried in presence of Magistrate after conducting post-mortem and lifting DNA samples," the police spokesperson said.

He said taking note of the claim by the families and the media reports, Shopian police will examine the claimants and carry out DNA sampling for matching purpose.

"Besides identification, Police will also investigate all other aspects as per the law in due course of time," the police spokesperson said.

"Meanwhile, Army has also taken notice of the family and social media claims regarding the said operation and initiated investigations," he added.

Pertinently, Abrar Ahmed Khan, Abrar Yousuf Chouhan and Imtiyaz Hussain, all residents of Dhar Sakri village of Qotranka in Rajouri went missing on July 17 in south Kashmir's Shopian district, a day before police claimed to have killed three unidentified militants in a joint P-02



PICTURES of 3 Rajouri boys that have gone viral on social media. Image source, Twitter

Advisor Khan Terms Shopian 'Fake Encounter' A Rumour

SRINAGAR: Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Farooq Ahmed Khan on Tuesday rubbished the claims of last month's Shopian encounter as being fake and gave clean chit to the state forces saying that "rumours" of staged gunfight were being spread to disturb peace in Kashmir valley.

"Some people call Shopian encounters a staged or fake encounter on social media to deteriorate the situation



in Kashmir. I guess these rumours are being spread to deteriorate the situation in Kashmir. We will defeat all the conspiracies of those who want to deteriorate the situ-

ation in Kashmir," Khan, according to news agency KNS told reporters at Dak Bungalow in south Kashmir's Anantnag district on Tuesday.

However, the former police officer said that there were some reports about three missing persons which will be thoroughly investigated to make everything clear.

Khan's comments come a day after three families from Rajouri claimed that three of their kin have been P-02

'Fake Encounters Result Of Impunity To Armed Forces'

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Expressing concern over the reports of fake encounter of three Rajouri youth in south Kashmir's Shopian district last month, Hurriyat Conference led by Mirwaiz Umar Farooq on Tuesday said that Indian army has brought back painful memories of Pathribal and

Macchil fake encounters with this incident.

In a statement issued here on Tuesday, a Hurriyat spokesperson said that staged killings, torture and disappearances are the result of heavy militarisation of J&K and the complete immunity which the armed forces enjoy from law and accountability for over three decades. Due to P-02

NC, Cong Demand 'Time Bound' Probe

The Jammu and Kashmir unit of Congress and National Conference on Tuesday demanded an independent probe into the alleged encounter killing of three "terrorists" in Shopian district last month after some families lodged a P-02

Faasal Puts Ball In Govt's Court After Quitting Politics

'I've Always Said That I Want To Work Within The System'

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR/NEW DELHI: Shah Faesal, the first resident of Jammu and Kashmir who topped the civil services exam in 2009, on Tuesday said his decision to join politics last year had done more harm than benefit as his "innocuous act" of dissent was seen as an "act of treason".

A day after announcing that he was quitting politics, the 37-year-old defended his decision saying "we evolve with time" and abrogation of the special status on

Shah Faesal To Be Named LG's Advisor: Report

The government is considering to appoint Shah Faesal as the advisor to the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, Nav Bharat Times reported Tuesday.

Quoting sources, the report says that if Faesal returns to bureaucracy, he will still be given a post in Raj Bhavan. The report P-02

August 5 last year brought forth a new political reality in Kashmir. Faesal had brought glory to the erstwhile state by standing first in the civil services exam and was seen as a role model for youths.

He, however, resigned from the Indian Administrative Service (IAS) in January last year.

"While in detention I thought a lot about it. And I realised that I am not the person who can P-02

BJP Assures 'Proper Security' To Party Workers In J&K

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir BJP leadership on Tuesday assured party workers in Kashmir Valley that they would be provided security by the administration following recent attacks on village-level leaders by militants.

The assurance came after a meeting of the party's core group under the leadership of Union Territory president Ravinder Raina at its headquarters here, a party spokesman said.

He said the meeting was also attended by former deputy chief ministers Nirmal Singh and Kavin-der Gupta and Member of Parliament Jugul Kishore P-02



Russia Develops World's First COVID-19 Vaccine

Moscow says 20 countries have pre-ordered a billion doses

Press Trust of India

MOSCOW: President Vladimir Putin on Tuesday announced that Russia has developed the world's first vaccine against COVID-19 that works "quite effectively" and forms a "stable immunity" against the disease as he disclosed that one of his daughters has already been vaccinated.

"A vaccine against coronavirus has been registered for the first time in the world this morning," Putin said during a

meeting with members of his government.

"I know that it works quite effectively, it forms a stable immunity," the official Tass news agency quoted Putin as saying.

Putin's claim has come amidst concerns raised by experts about the speed of Russia's work, suggesting that researchers might be cutting corners.

Amid fears that safety could have been compromised, the World Health Organization (WHO) urged Russia last week to follow international guidelines for producing a vaccine against COVID-19, the BBC reported.

The Russian vaccine is not among the WHO's list of six vaccines that have reached phase three clinical trials, which involve more widespread P-02

Covid-19 Claims 9 More Lives In J&K, Toll 492

Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR: At least nine people died due to coronavirus in Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday, raising the count of fatalities since the outbreak of pandemic in the Union Territory to 492.

According to official sources, seven new Covid-19 deaths were reported from Valley, while two from Jammu province

The victims from Jammu, they said, include a 57-year-old man from Patel Bazar Pacca Danga and a 62-year-old man from Resham Ghar Jammu.

Regarding the septuagenarian, they said, he was brought dead to P-02

46 Security Men Among 564 New Cases
Jammu and Kashmir reported 564 new covid-19 cases including 46 armed forces personnel, taking the overall tally to 25931, officials said on Tuesday. With 88 travelers P-02

the casualty section of GMC Jammu at 9 p.m. on Monday night.

As regards the 62-year-old, they said, he was admitted to GMC on August 9 and was diagnosed as a case of "hypertension, type2diabetes mellitus, P-02

Govt Preparing 'Red Zone Testing Strategy' To Combat Covid-19

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir government on Tuesday asked the officials to work out a 'Red Zone testing strategy' in its ongoing effort to combat the spread of coronavirus in the Union Territory.

Chairing a meeting today to take stock of Covid-19 mitigating efforts and to review Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and policies, the Chief Secretary, B V R Subrahmanyam underscored the importance of aggressive testing for early medical intervention and asked the concerned to work out a

'Red Zone testing strategy' focusing on vulnerable patients including children, old aged, pregnant ladies, patients with Influenza like Illness (ILI), Severe Acute Respiratory Infections (SARI), co-morbid conditions, service providers, drivers and healthcare professionals, an official spokesperson said Tuesday.

"The Rapid Antigen Test in addition to RTPCR can be used for cleansing and securing a red/containment zone by testing all probable contacts of patients and vulnerable population in the area", Subrahmanyam, according to the official spokesperson said. P-02

ACB Files Charge Sheet In Rs 250 Cr Loan Scam

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Tuesday produced a charge sheet against three people including former chairman of Jammu and Kashmir Cooperative Bank for sanctioning a Rs 250 crore loan to a non-existent cooperative housing society two years ago.

"The ACB filed a charge sheet against Mohammad Shafi Dar, the then chairman of J&K State Cooperative Bank Limited (JKSTCB), Hilal Ahmad Mir, chairman of non-existent River Jhelum Cooperative House Building Society, Srinagar and Abdul Hamid Hajam, secretary of the non-existent River Jhelum Cooperative House Building Society, Srinagar," a spokesperson of the anti-graft body said here.

The ACB registered a case against

Dar and others under various sections of prevention of corruption act for allegedly sanctioning a loan to the tune of Rs 250 crore in favour of the non-existent society for the purpose of construction of a satellite township at Shiwpora locality in Srinagar bypassing the credit policy of the bank and on the basis of false and fabricated documents.

The ACB investigation revealed that a conspiracy was hatched between Dar, Mir, Hajam, Mohd Mujib Ur Rehman Ghazi, the then registrar of cooperative societies, J&K, Syed Ashiq Hussain, deputy registrar cooperative societies and others in creating the fake society in 2018-19 in order to obtain a loan from the bank.

The spokesperson said in furtherance of the conspiracy that was hatched, a fake registration certificate P-02

Two J&K Districts To Get 4G On Trial Basis After Aug 15, SC Told

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI- A special committee looking into the issue of restoring internet in Jammu and Kashmir has decided to provide 4G services on trial basis in limited areas of the Union Territory after August 15, the Centre informed the Supreme Court on Tuesday.

A bench headed by Justice N V Ramana was informed by Attorney General K K Venugopal, appearing for the Centre, that the committee has decided to hold trials for high speed internet access in one district each in Jammu and Kashmir division.

The Committee has decided that access to 4G internet in J-K be

given in a calibrated manner and outcome of the trial will be reviewed after two months, he said, adding that it considered multiple options while keeping in mind the security situation as the threat perception remained high.

The bench also comprising Justices R Subhash Reddy and B R Gavai said this is a fairly good stand on the part of the respondents - the Centre and the J-K administration.

It said that since both the ad-

ministrations are saying they will review it later then why the matter be kept pending.

Venugopal further said that there was no case of contempt made out as the orders of the court were being complied with.

Senior advocate Huzefa Ahmadi, appearing for petitioner NGO Foundation for Media Professionals', said this was a step forward but still some concerns remain.

He raised the issue of publication and bringing in public domain the special P-02

