Maximum: 25°c Minmum :18°c mrow 06:00 AM Humidity: 83%

06 Muharram-ul-Haraaml | 1442 Hijri | Vol: 23 | Issue: 185 | Pages: 08 | Price: ₹3



www.kashmirobserver.net ● twitter.com / kashmirobserver ● facebook.com/kashmirobserver ● Postal Regn: L/159/KO/SK/2014-201

News Digest

CRPF Officer Dies Of Heart Attack

Srinagar: A Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) officer on Tuesday died of a heart attack in south Kashmir's Kulgam district. Sub-Inspector Ravi Kumar of CRPF 18 battalion suffered a heart attack in Nillow area of the district, where he was posted and performing his duty, reports said. The officer was removed to the hospital where the doctors declared him brought dead on arrival. A police officer confirmed the death of the officer to news agency KNO and said that the deceased was a native of Himachal Pradesh.

Cop, Associate Held **Over Highway Robbery**

Srinagar: Two people, including a policeman on Tuesday were arrested for their involvement in a highway robbery in south Kashmir's Awantipora. According to a police spokesperson, a truck driver Reyaz Ahmad Sheikh of Kangan filed a complaint to the police that some goons stopped his vehicle (JK05A-6896) at Lethpora and looted 2 cell phones and an amount Rs10,000 from him. Accordingly, the spokesperson said, a case FIR No. 111/2020 under relevant sections of law was registered in Police Station Awantipora and investigation was initiated. During the course of investigation, the police spokesperson said that the officers taking aid of modern and scientific methods of investigation were able P-02

Grenade Defused At Kreeri Gunfight Spot

Srinagar: A grenade was recovered and defused by the state forces near last week's gunfight site in Kreeri area of Baramulla district on Tuesday. The locals spotted the grenade in orchards on Tuesday afternoon and informed the police about the recovery, officials said. He said a joint team of 29 RR, police rushed to the spot along with Bomb Disposal Squad and defused the grenade. The grenade was recovered eight days after the gunfight broke out between the forces and militants in the area in which three militants were killed.

P-02

Agri Dept To Hold E-Auction Of Saffron

Srinagar: The agriculture department in Jammu and Kashmir is planning to hold online auction of saffron produced in the valley through a portal to ensure that buyers across India have access to the quality product, officials said on Tuesday. "The Department of Agriculture under the aegis of India International Kashmir Saffron Trading Centre (IIKSTC), contemplates to promote trading of GI-tagged Kashmir saffron through pan-India e-Auction portal created in collaboration with NSE-IT, with ● P-02

10 Injured As Bus Turns **Turtle In Kupwara**

Kupwara- At least 10 passengers including six women were injured when a passenger bus they were travelling in turned turtle in Magam Handwara in north Kashmir's Kupwara district on Tuesday. Official sources said that the bus (JK09-0557) met with the accident at Khanpora Magam when the driver of the bus, coming from Magam to Handwara, apparently lost control over the vehicle while negotiating a curve, reported news agency GNS. The injured persons were identified as Mohmooda Bagum of Dolipora, Rubeena Begum of Sunmoola, Irshada Bagum of Sonmoola, Bashir Ahmad Bhat of Shogpora, Hayat Hijam • P-02

PULWAMA SUICIDE ATTACK

NIA Files Charges Against Azhar, 18 Others

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Wrapping up the probe into a fatal militant attack that left 40 CRPF personnel dead in South Kashmir last year, the National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Tuesday filed a chargesheet in a special court here against 19 people including Masood Azhar, the chief of banned militant group Jaish-e-Mohammed, for planning the suicide operation.

Leading the investigation into the "blind case", as seven accused wanted in it were killed during different encounters in 2019, a team led by joint director of the NIA Anil Shukla gathered evidences and statements of militants and their sympathisers arrested in different cases in order to expose the conspiracy hatched for executing the audacious attack on the paramilitary convoy, officials said.

The 13,500-page chargesheet names Masood Azhar, his brothers -- Abdul Rauf and Ammar Alvi -- and his nephew Mohammed Umer Farooq, who had infiltrated into India in 2018 and was



Salahuddin, 11 Hizb Men Charged Under PMLA

he Enforcement Directorate Tuesday filed a charge sheet before Delhi court against Pakistan-based Hizb-ul-Mujahideen chief Syed Salahuddin and 11 others for allegedly laundering money for financing militant activities in Jammu and Kashmir. The agency said the charge sheet is also related ● P-02

subsequently killed in one of the encounters in South Kashmir. According to security forces, Farooq had entered India in late

2018 using the natural caves at

the Samba sector in Jammu region

along the international border.

The chargesheet says suicide bomber Adil Ahmed Dar was driving the car laden with 200 kgs of explosives and had prepared his last video at Shakir Bashir's residence in Pulwama on a high-tech phone → PAGE 02

WHILE IT WAS CLEAR THAT THE SUICIDE ATTACKER WAS

Adil Ahmed Dar but the same had to be established with evidence. After picking up human remains from various spots, they were sent for DNA profiling," the official, who requested anonymity, said.

India Deploys Troops With Shoulder-Fired Missiles In Ladakh

NEW DELHI: The Indian Army has further bolstered its combat readiness in eastern Ladakh by deploying troops with shoulder-fired missiles in several sensitive areas in the backdrop of increasing activities by Chinese helicopters in the region, official sources said on Tuesday.

These missiles have a range of two to five km and they are capable of bringing down low flying helicopters and aircraft, they added.

The deployment of a sizeable number of troops with shoulderfired missiles came as part of India's overall approach to significantly ramp up combat capabilities of the Army and the Indian Air Force (IAF) in eastern Ladakh.

There has been an increase in activities by Chinese air force • P-02

India Expedites Work On Leh-Himachal Road

NEW DELHI: Amid the border row with China, India is expediting work on a strategic road linking Darcha in Himachal Pradesh with Ladakh that will criss cross a number of highaltitude snow-bound passes, official sources said on Tuesday.

They said the nearly 290-km-long road will be crucial for movement of the troops and heavy weaponry into the frontier bases of the Ladakh region and will provide a crucial link to the Kargil region

It will be the third road link to Ladakh after the other two roads: the Manali-Leh road and Srinagar-Leh highway.

The work on reopening an alternative road to Ladakh from Himachal Pradesh has been expedited as it is a strategically key road, said an official on condition of • P-02

Covid-19 Claims 16 More Lives, Toll Reaches 649

SRINAGAR: As many as 16 more people, including a CRPF personal succumbed to coronavirus in Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday, raising the total number of people dead since the pandemic outbreak in the **Union Territory to 649.**

While thirteen of the victims hailed from Valley, three others devoured by the deadly infection were residents of Jammu division, officials said Tuesday.

The victims from Jammu, the officials said included a 53-yearold and a 63-year-old male from Bakshi Nagar. They died in the Government Medical College 2 died this morning, they said. (GMC) in the winter capital. The third victim from the division was a 45-year-old woman from Kathua, who

died at GMC Kathua. In Valley, four people from Srinagar were among the fatalities reported today.

Sources said that a 45-yearold CRPF man from 162 battalion mitted to CD hospital, one of the who was posted at Humhama exclusive facilities for the man-Budgam died at SKIMS Soura, agement of Covid-19 → PAGE 02

Covid-19 Victim's Kin **Booked For Violating** Funeral SOPs

olice have filed case against the kin and relatives of a coronavirus victim from Batpora area of the city outskirts, for allegedly violating Covid-19 Standard Operating Procedure (SOP), laid down P-02

six days after he was admitted to the tertiary care hospital.

A 46-year-old man from Sumbal Bandipora, who was also admitted to the hospital on August

> Also, a 52-year-old man from Anchar Soura died at the tertiary care hospital, ten days after he was admitted and diagnosed with multiple underlying ailments.

A 95-year-old man from Kawdara Srinagar died four days after he was ad-

84 Travellers Among 701 New Cases

ammu and Kashmir reported on Tuesday 701 fresh cases of Covid-19, including 84 travellers, taking the total number of people infected by the deadly disease across the Union Territory to 33,776. While 562 new cases were reported from Kashmir valley, the remaining 139 were confirmed Covid-19 positive by the officials from the Jammu division. • P-02

Massive Landslide Forces Closure Of Kashmir Highway

Press Trust Of India

BANIHAL: Traffic on the Jammu-Srinagar national highway was suspended early Tuesday after heavy rains triggered a massive landslide in Ramban district, blocking the only all-weather road linking Kashmir with rest of the country, officials said.

Deputy Superintendent of Poice Traffic (National Highway). Ajay Anand said the landslide struck the highway at Dalwas around 5 am, also damaging a ration work would take time given portion of the road. The agencies the damage to the road. concerned have started the road highway, he said adding the resto-slide, the officials said. PAGE 02

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: A prominent Kashmir

based human rights organisation,

Jammu Kashmir Coalition of Civil

Society (JKCCS) in its latest report

released on Tuesday termed the on-

going internet clampdown as 'digi-

tion of international community for

restoration of the same.

Landslides Leave Four Dead In Reasi hree members of a

family were among four killed in separate incidents of landslides following heavy rains in Reasi district of Jammu and Kashmir. police said on Tuesday. Khalil Ahmad (30), his wife Raksana Begum (25) ● P-02

Traffic was stopped at Qazigund clearance operation to restore the in south Kashmir following the land-

JKCCS Terms Ongoing Internet Gag

well as the laws of armed conflict."

"The siege is a means of po-

punishment, and was a clear violation world," a JKCCS spokesperson said the JKCCS said the writs did **PAGE 02**

In Kashmir As 'Digital Apartheid'

tal apartheid' and sought interven- of international human rights law as

The report titled 'Kashmir's Inter- litical repression that serves as

net Siege' says the "ongoing internet a deliberate means of severing

siege enacts a 'digital apartheid', a social, economic and political

form of systemic and pervasive dis- connections between Kashmiris.

criminatory treatment and collective while also isolating them from the

US Think Tank Says '4 Point Formula' Best Solution To Kashmir

'India's Insistence On Kashmir Being A Purely Domestic Issue Is A Fiction'

Agencies

NEW DELHI: A report by the US Institute of Peace (USIP) has analyzed that the standoff between India and Pakistan over Kashmir can be resolved if the Musharraf-Manmohan deal is implemented with mutual agreement from both sides

The report by the Washingtonbased think tank, funded by the US Congress, has expressed concerns over the Narendra Modi government's decision to annex Jammu and Kashmir, changing the special

while releasing the report.

He said for the already vulnerable

people of Jammu & Kashmir, who

live amidst a "state of perpetual war

and permanent emergency", this

'siege' is enforced by various modes

of network disruption and state

"These disruptions disproportion-

control over access to the internet.

ately target essential civilian supplies

and services, adversely impact hu-

man rights and preemptively silence

all forms of online speech," he added.

Court challenging the ban on high

speed internet in Jammu and Kashmir.

Referring to the cases in the Supreme

Why Joint Statement Has Little More Than A Feel Good Appeal



status into two Union Territories, highlighting that the decision will "be sorely tested by the disaffec-

tion that has intensified among Kashmiris since August 5, 2019". "New Delhi will >> PAGE 02

Delimitation Panel Orders Freeze On New Admin Units In J&K

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI- The Delimitation Commission has ordered a freeze on creation of new 'administrative units' in Assam, Manipur, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir till the exercise of redrawing constituencies to be made part of a constituency. in these northeastern states and the union territory is completed.

The order says the freeze is effective from June 15, a senior officer aware of the development said. An administrative unit may include a district or a tehsil.

carrying out the delimitation ex- eastern states and, work on increas-



unit is created then it also will have For every new such unit cre-

ated, the Commission will have to go back to the drawing board. To avoid that, the freeze has been ordered, explained the officer.

The delimitation panel would redraw the Lok Sabha and assembly The Delimitation Commission is constituencies of the four northercise and if a new administrative ing the assembly seats of **>> PAGE 02**

Govt Orders Domicile Certificates To PRC Holders In 5 Days

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir administration on Tuesday directed the competent authorities to issue domicile certificates to the Permanent Resident Certificate (PRC) holders and migrants of the Union Territory within five working days.

Ordering amendment in Jammu and Kashmir Grant of Domicile Certificate Procedure Rules, 2020 issued vide notification (S.O. No.166 of 2020 dated 18.05.2020), the government directed: "In sub-rule(i) of rule 6.- (a) The following first proviso shall be added, namely,- "Provided that any person eligible for Domicile Certificate for category of domicile as provided under clause I(a) and • P-02

LG Manoj Sinha To Chair First Admin Council Meeting

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha will chair first Administrative Council meet on August 27, wherein according to sources, some key decisions are likely to be taken.

LG Sinha, who assumed chair two weeks ago, will hold the Administrative Council meeting at Raj Bhawan on Thursday.

"16th meeting of the Administrative Council is scheduled to be held on 27th of August, 2020 at 04:00 PM, at Raj Bhawan, Srinagar", reads an order issued by the General Administration • P-02

RIYAZ WANI

n a joint declaration on Saturday, six J&K parties includresolve to fight for restoration of Article 370 that granted J&K its autonomous status within Indian Union. Contrary to a subdued politiover the loss of special constitutional status during last several months, the language of the joint statement was aggressive and evocative. The use of words like, 'spiteful,' 'pain,' 'short-sighted,' etc was a clear attempt to appeal to a deep sense of end, the statement may have satis-

ing Congress expressed their fied a large section of population. But the real challenge for these parties lies ahead. By coming out with a hardline statement, they have set the bar high. And a credcal stance adopted by these parties ible follow-up activity is what will be needed in weeks and months to come for the people to take these parties on their word.

Is this activity possible? Not necessarily. By now the New Delhi has made its redlines in Kashmir amply known. Going by the situation over hurt and humiliation among people the past year, the centre is unlikely to in the Valley over the erasure of a countenance any public expression cherished autonomy. And to that of dissent that seeks to involve people. And as a probable consequence



of this policy, the J&K parties like Na- at the receiving end of the administional Conference, the PDP and the tration's unsparing assault over the People's Conference that have been last year have stayed short of calling

for a public resistance against Article Raina said, addressing party workers 370 move. There has been no call for a hartal, a peaceful protest a political rally or at least an attempt to hold a press conference.

joint statement terming it as daydreaming. Its state president Ravinder Raina said the reversal of the move was impossible. "The restoration of Articles 370 &

35(A) is next to impossible. Due to decades and they gave rise to terrorism, separatism and strengthened they won"t be restored at any cost,"

at Sialsui village of Kalakote in Rajouri district. "Kashmir-based leaders are doing nothing except daydreaming as they are feeling restless The BJP has already trashed the to return to the corridors of power to enjoy all luxuries for themselves and their near and dear ones".

Ironically enough the six parties ment represent almost the entire resistance against the loss of J&K's these Articles, J&K has suffered for what these parties are saying, in rethink on the move by the centre. effect, articulates the predominant the Pakistani agenda and as such, the union territory. Significantly, mental shift in the political realities the statement also includes Con-

gress, the national party.

So, the statement deserved to be taken seriously. But it won't. And the problem is not the BJP alone but the new political consensus on Kashmir across the country that treats the withdrawal of Article 370 as a fait accompli. For example, even Congress at the national level is not against reading down of Kashmir's special status, its opposition is just

to the manner of doing it. Do Kashmiri parties have thus that were a part of the joint state- any chance of mounting an effective mainstream politics of J&K. And so autonomy, one that would force any There is no realistic chance of this majority of the public opinion in happening until there is a fundaof the country - a part of >> PAGE 02