



Maximum : 25°C
Minum : 18°C
Humidity : 83%

SUNSET
Today 07:04 PM
SUNRISE
Tomorrow 06:00 AM



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 Mohmmoda Begum of Dolipora, Rubena Begum of Sunmoola, Irshada Begum 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

The 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.

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 Police, Traffic (National Highway), Ajay Anand said the landslide struck the highway at Dalwas around 5 am, also damaging a portion of the road. The agencies concerned have started the road clearance operation to restore the highway, he said adding the resto-

Landslides Leave Four Dead In Reasi

Three 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**

ration work would take time given the damage to the road.

Traffic was stopped at Qazigund in south Kashmir following the landslide, the officials said. **● PAGE 02**

JKCCS Terms Ongoing Internet Gag In Kashmir As 'Digital Apartheid'

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 ongoing internet clampdown as 'digital apartheid' and sought intervention of international community for restoration of the same.

The report titled 'Kashmir's Internet Siege' says the "ongoing internet siege enacts a 'digital apartheid', a form of systemic and pervasive discriminatory treatment and collective punishment, and was a clear violation



of international human rights law as well as the laws of armed conflict."

"The siege is a means of political repression that serves as a deliberate means of severing social, economic and political connections between Kashmiris, while also isolating them from the world," a JKCCS spokesperson said

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 Washington-based 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



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**

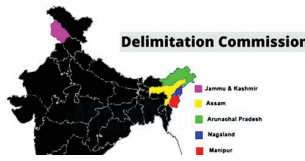
Delimitation Panel Orders Freeze On New Admin Units In J&K

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 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.

The Delimitation Commission is carrying out the delimitation exercise and if a new administrative



unit is created then it also will have to be made part of a constituency.

For every new such unit created, 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 constituencies of the four northeastern states and, work on increasing 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 (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

In a joint declaration on Saturday, six J&K parties including Congress expressed their resolve to fight for restoration of Article 370 that granted J&K its autonomous status within Indian Union. Contrary to a subdued political stance adopted by these parties over 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 hurt and humiliation among people in the Valley over the erasure of a cherished autonomy. And to that end, the statement may have satis-

Why Joint Statement Has Little More Than A Feel Good Appeal

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 credible 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 the past year, the centre is unlikely to countenance any public expression of dissent that seeks to involve people. And as a probable consequence



of this policy, the J&K parties like National Conference, the PDP and the People's Conference that have been

at the receiving end of the administration's unsparing assault over the last year have stayed short of calling

for a public resistance against Article 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.

The BJP has already trashed the joint statement terming it as day-dreaming. 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 these Articles, J&K has suffered for decades and they gave rise to terrorism, separatism and strengthened the Pakistani agenda and as such, they won't be restored at any cost,"

Raina said, addressing party workers at Salsui village of Kalakote in Rajouri district. "Kashmir-based leaders are doing nothing except day-dreaming as they are feeling restless to return to the corridors of power to enjoy all luxuries for themselves and their near and dear ones".

Ironically enough the six parties that were a part of the joint statement represent almost the entire mainstream politics of J&K. And so what these parties are saying, in effect, articulates the predominant majority of the public opinion in the union territory. Significantly, 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 any chance of mounting an effective resistance against the loss of J&K's autonomy, one that would force any rethink on the move by the centre. There is no realistic chance of this happening until there is a fundamental shift in the political realities of the country - a part of **● PAGE 02**