

Maximum : 29°C
Minimum : 18°C
Humidity : 72%SUNSET
Today 06:55 PM
SUNRISE
Tomorrow 06:05 AM

OBSERVER

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News Digest

Searches Conducted
In Hazratbal, Soura

Srinagar: Government Forces Tuesday launched a cordon-and-search operation in Hazratbal and Soura localities of Srinagar outskirts.

Sources said that combined forces launched a cordon-and-search operation in Dar Mohalla locality of Gasoo area. Before the operation, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Singh paid obeisance at Hazratbal shrine and for that reason there was a massive security beef up.

Sources said the operation was launched following the inputs about the movement of suspected militants in the area. A police official said that random searches were conducted in Dar Mohalla, however, nothing objectionable was found. A search operation was also conducted in Soura area of Srinagar. CRPF and QRT teams conducted these searches, officials said adding that operation concluded peacefully.

Non-Locals Organize
Ganesh Rally

Srinagar: Over a dozen non-local Hindus mostly females organized Ganesh Chaturthi in Kashmir capital Srinagar. The devotees started rally from Haft Chinara area of Srinagar. They were carrying the idols of Lord Ganesh. "It is probably for the first time that we organized this rally here. It's good to be part of the rally," a non-local Hindu Akash Kumar from Punjab said. Ganesh Chaturthi is a Hindu festival celebrating the arrival of Ganesh to earth from Kailash. ● P-02

14 employees
suspended in B'pora

Bandipora: District Development Commissioner (DDC), Bandipora, Dr. Owais Ahmed Tuesday suspended 14 employees for remaining unauthorisedly absent from their duties while a show cause notice was served to five District Officers. An official spokesman said that on the directions of Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, a team of officers led by Assistant Commissioner Revenue Reyaz Ahmad Beigh conducted a surprise inspection of various government offices stationed at Minisecretariat Bandipora to check the attendance of employees. He said that 14 employees were found absent from the duties and were put under suspension immediately. Five District Officers ● P-02

2 Held For Baramulla
Grenade Blast

Srinagar: Police on Tuesday claimed to have arrested two persons "involved" in grenade blast at Baramulla on an army convey which missed the target to explode on roadside in which seven civilians were injured. A police spokesperson said that subsequently a case (FIR No 147/2020) under section 307 IPC, 7/27 I.A Act, 18.20.39 ULA(P) Act was lodged and investigation was set into motion. "During the course of investigation, on the basis of human and technical intelligence, a joint operation was launched by 46 RR, 53 CRPF and Baramulla Police in which two suspects namely Fayaz Ahmad Kumar alias ● P-02

...SITUATION IN LADAKH 'SENSITIVE'

China, India Deploy
Tanks, Additional Troops

Observer Monitoring Desk

NEW DELHI: As Brigade Commander level talks between India and China ended, the situation along the Line of Actual Control in the southern bank of the Pangong Tso in Ladakh was described as tense. Both sides reportedly deployed tanks and additional troops after the Indian Army did a "tit-for-tat" by dominating the "entire" southern bank of the Pangong Tso over the weekend.

While the outcome of the Brigadier level meeting at Chushul for the second successive day remained inconclusive, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh at a high-level review meeting in the capital on Tuesday told the armed forces to fortify their positions and defend the territory.

The second flag meeting between ground commanders took place in the wake of a second Chinese 'provocative action' on August 31, which was thwarted once again by the Indian troops.



According to media reports it was late-night movement Saturday of Chinese tanks stationed in Moldo, opposite the Chushul sector, which made the Indian Army give the go-ahead to one of its specialised units to capture certain hilltops near the southern banks of the lake, claimed by both India and China as part of their territory.

They described the Indian move as "tit-for-tat action" to

Indo-Pak Armies Trade Gunfire Along LoC

The armies of India and Pakistan on Tuesday exchanged gunfire along the Line of Control (LoC) in Gurez sector of north Kashmir's Bandipora district after Pakistan army targeted forward defence locations at Bagtore. Military officials said that the Pakistan Army violated the ceasefire along the LoC this evening and targeted forward defense ● P-02

dominate the entire southern bank of the Pangong Tso just as the Chinese troops have done with the northern banks. Sources in the defence and security establishment, ● P-02

THE SITUATION REMAINS SENSITIVE. ALL NECESSARY STEPS THAT NEED TO BE taken to ensure that defences are in place have been taken. The forces remain on a heightened state of alert,"

14 More Fall Victim To Covid-19 In J&K, Toll 719

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir reported 14 more covid-19 related deaths in last 24 hours, taking the overall fatality count to 719 in J&K.

Among them, two deaths were reported from Jammu division and 12 from Kashmir Valley, official sources said.

Regarding the deaths from Valley, they said, five were reported from Pulwama, two each from Srinagar, Ganderbal and Budgam besides one from Bandipora.

They said a 50-year-old woman from Wislapora Budgam died at SKIMS Soura, five days after

525 New Cases Take J&K
Tally Past 38000

Fifty-one travelers were among 525 covid-19 infections reported in Jammu and Kashmir in last 24 hours, taking the overall tally to 38223. Among the cases 241 were confirmed from Jammu Division and 284 from Kashmir including four pregnant woman and three minors. Giving breakup of the cases, they said, ● P-02

she was admitted to the tertiary care hospital.

A 55-year-old woman from Batpora Budgam who was admitted on 29 August, died at SMHS Hospital, they said

A 65-year-old man from HMT Srinagar who was admitted to

SMHS hospital on August 26 as a case of Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), hypertension and bilateral community acquired pneumonia, died on Tuesday, they said.

A 72-year-old from Eidgah Srinagar was brought to ● P-02

South Kashmir Militants
Posses Only Pistols: Army

'Security Forces Have Successfully Blocked The Supply Chain Of Weapons To Militants'

Agencies

BARAMULLA: The army on Tuesday said that Pakistan has adopted a new trend to drop arms and ammunition close to the Line of Control (LoC) to fuel militancy in the Valley but the same has been thwarted by the security agencies jointly.

Addressing a press conference, General officer Commanding (GOC) of 19 Infantry Division, Baramulla, Major General Varinder Vats said that Pakistan is frustrated due to blockade of infiltration and

cooperation between the security agencies had forced it to push more advanced weapons into the Valley. "But the halt in supply chain has left militants high and dry. In South Kashmir, militants possess only pistols," he said.

He said that Pakistan is unrelenting in its effort to push in arms to strengthen militancy in Kashmir but alert troops along the LoC have been able to defeat the attempts.

The tactics used by Pakistan to smuggle weapons into India after facing frustration as ● P-02

Strict 'Hard On Crime' Attitude Needed
Against Drug Abuse: HC

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The J&K High Court on Tuesday underlined the need for strict 'hard on crime' attitude against the instances of drug abuse in Jammu and Kashmir even as it asked the courts below to have "due regard to the harmful socio-economic consequences" while dealing with such matters.

Dismissing a criminal revision filed by an accused, Khurshid Ahmad Wani of Shilvath Sumbal against orders cancelling his bail by trial court, a bench of Justice Ali Mohammad Magrey said the Courts, while dealing with these matters, are required to have due regard to the harmful socio-economic consequences as well as the health hazards which accompany the menace of trafficking illegally in dangerous drugs.

The NDPS Act is a special

Covid-19 No Substantial Change For Bail: HC

HC Extends Hearing Of Cases In Virtual Mode

legislation enacted by the Parliament aimed at curbing the ever-increasing menace of 'Drug Trafficking' which, if not checked, has the potential of ● P-02

12.5 Lakh Domicile Certificates
Issued in J&K So Far: Govt

Certificates Issued Are To Apply For Jobs, Says J&K Administration

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir administration, on Tuesday, said that the issuance of Domicile Certificates have been accelerated and so far, they have issued 12.5 lakh domicile certificates to people.

The administration however claimed that possession of this document does not entitle a person to buy land in J&K.

Of all certificates made, 11,398 have been issued to West Pakistan refugees and 12,340 to registered migrants.

Addressing a press conference here Government spokesperson Rohit Kansal said that the process of issuance of Domicile Certificates is picking up rapidly and certificate issuance is being monitored regularly. "About 12.5 lakh Domicile Cer-

tificates have been issued so far. Over 99% of those issued certificates include erstwhile PRCs or including Kashmiri Pandit migrants. The process of issuance will be further accelerated and the issuance will be monitored to ensure that pendency is brought down to the lowest," Mr Kansal informed.

He added that so far 11398 West Pakistan Refugees, 415 Valmiki community members, 10 Gorkha community members and 12340 Registered Migrants have been issued Domicile Certificates.

Giving a background about the Domicile Certificate procedure, he said that the Government had notified the Jammu and Kashmir Grant of Domicile Certificate (Procedure) Rules, 2020, which is the basic eligibility condition for appointment to any ● P-02

THE RULES HAVE A PROVISION THAT applications for grant of Domicile Certificate can be submitted either physically or electronically online. The Competent Authority can also issue domicile certificate(s) electronically,"

Postal Delivery Of Domicile Certificates
Initiated By DC Jammu

In view of the current COVID19 pandemic and to facilitate the public at large, Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Sushma Chauhan, today initiated the process of delivery of domicile certificates through the Postal Department. The service has been started in association with the Postal Department. Launching the service, the Deputy Commissioner Jammu handed over a dozen envelopes containing domicile ● P-02

JK Govt Withdraws 50 Percent
'Corona Tax' on Liquor

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir administration on Tuesday withdrew the additional excise duty of 50 per cent levied on liquor after the outbreak of COVID-19 as a new excise policy for the remainder of 2020-2021 financial year came into force in the Union Territory, a senior government officer said.

Excise Commissioner Rajesh Kumar Shavan said the new policy for the first time provides for reservation of 12 per cent to six categories of people, including ex-servicemen, those belonging weaker sections and unemployed youths, in opening bars and restaurants at tourist destinations across the Union Territory. "The additional 50 per cent ex-

KCCI Seeks Business
Revival Package

President Kashmir Chamber of Commerce and Industries KCCI Sheikh Ashiq Tuesday held a virtual meeting with the Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman with a demand for a comprehensive economic revival package for ● P-02

cise duty on liquor (which was levied in May), commonly known as corona tax, has been withdrawn from today after the implementation of the new excise policy," Shavan told reporters here. ● P-02

Illegal Shopping Plaza In Srinagar
ACB Raids Residences
Of 4 SMC Officers

SRINAGAR: Anti-Corruption Bureau carried out raids at the residences of four SMC officers and recovered "incriminating documents" in connection with the construction of illegal construction of shopping Plaza at Kursoo Rajbagh here.

As per a statement issued here to GNS, a Joint Surprise Check (JSC) was conducted by ACB Police Station Srinagar, to look into the allegations of illegal construction of Abdullah Shopping Plaza at Kursoo Rajbagh, Srinagar.

"During JSC it was surfaced that vide No. 2926 of 2018 dated 05-08-2018 building permission was issued by Srinagar Municipal Corporation in favour of Mohammad Abdullah Dar son of Abdul Kabir Dar of Rajbagh for extension of already existing ● P-02

8664 Persons Lodged
In J&K Jails

'Occupancy rate was 126 % at year-end'

SRINAGAR: An official report has revealed that 8664 persons were admitted in jails of Jammu & Kashmir during 2019.

The report- Prison Statistics of India, 2019- unveiled by the National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB) lays bare that 8664 persons were admitted in jails of J&K UT during last year.

The NCRB comes under administrative control of Ministry of Home Affairs.

J&K has 15 jails, of which two are central jails, 10 district jails, two sub-jails and one special jail. According to the data, ● P-02

In FOCUS / 'Have I Lost My Eyesight': Lament After Mugged Mourning In Kashmir

Augib Javed

'PAPA,' asked Tanveer, 16, to his father Nazir Ahmad, 'when will I be able to see again? Have I lost my eyesight?'

His father, a shopkeeper by profession, didn't have any answers.

All he said to his son was to keep faith in Allah. "Gobra, sui chu gash nen'e woul ti, ti din'e woul ti" (God is the only one who gives and takes away light of eyes).

This tear-jerking exchange between the eye-banded son and helpless father took place in Ward No. 7 of Srinagar's State (SMHS) Hospital.

On Saturday, Tanveer was part of a Muharram procession at Hamdaniya Colony in Bemina, on the outskirts of Srinagar, when police fired pellets and teargas shells to disperse the procession.

And soon, this class 10th student, writhing in pain presently, became another pellet-perforated young face of the valley.

His viral image prompted netizens to condemn the latest spree of "pellet terror" in Kashmir.

Doctors who operated on Tanveer say pellets have ruptured his right eye, damaging his optic nerve, while one pellet has made a hole in his left eye.



In the same ward, Suhail Abbas Mir, 20, a class 12 student, is lying silent in his bed.

Photo Courtesy: Mudasir Ahmad

The boy has four pellets stuck in his right eye. He was operated upon late on Saturday night and is scheduled to undergo another surgery in 15 days, said his father.

The boy along with other friends was arranging refreshment for mourners in Bemina on the day of pellet attack.

"Police fired pellets and teargas shells at us," Suhail told Kashmir Observer over phone. "They were ruthless against mourners."

More than 90 mourners, including young boys, were injured. Most of them were first taken to nearby Imam Hussain hospital for treat-

ment where from they were referred to the SMHS hospital.

According to reports, many victims have not gone to the hospital fearing police action. Earlier, many videos of mourners removing pellets at home went viral on social media.

"Police easily get the record from the hospital so it was better to treat myself at home," said another victim of "pellet horror", wishing not to be named. "But unlike Tanveer and Suhail, I'm fortunate enough not to suffer a crippling eye injury."

Many mourners, whom Kashmir Observer spoke to, said they witnessed this kind of force against the mourners for the first time.

"Although, the restrictions are there for decades but we never witnessed this kind of ● P-02