



Maximum : 30°C  
Minimum : 15°C  
Humidity : 49%

SUNSET  
Today 06:46 PM  
SUNRISE  
Tomorrow 06:10 AM

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## News Digest

### Grenade Attack On CRPF Camp In Tral

Srinagar: Suspected militants on Tuesday evening hurled a grenade on CRPF camp in Tral area of south Kashmir's Pulwama district. Suspected militants on Tuesday evening lobbed a grenade towards the camp of CRPF 180 battalion in Nowdal, Tral, a senior police officer said. However, the grenade, he said exploded outside the camp with a bang. "However in this incident no loss of life or injury has" **P-02**

### Soldier Hurt After Vehicle Overturns

Srinagar: An army man on Tuesday was injured after the vehicle carrying him turned turtle in Gund area of central Kashmir's Ganderbal district. The soldier identified as P-Bodalay of army's 29 RR was injured when the vehicle he was travelling in, turned turtle near Gadrabal in Gund area along the Srinagar-Leh highway this morning, officials said. The injured soldier, officials said was removed to army's hospital in Wusan for treatment. His condition is said to be stable.

### 2 Held For Issuing Fake Travel Passes

Jammu: Police on Tuesday arrested two persons for allegedly issuing fake movement passes in lieu of money from people entering Kathua district in Jammu and Kashmir, officials said. The movement passes are necessary for inter-state and inter-provincial movement in Jammu and Kashmir since the outbreak of coronavirus in March. The duo was arrested at Lakhampur corridor along the Jammu-Pathankot highway, police officials said. "They were" **P-02**

### Absconder Held After 11 Years

Jammu: A man accused of cheating people by cloning their credit cards was arrested on Tuesday from the TallabTillo area here after being on the run for the last 11 years, police said. Haritesh Sethi was arrested by the Crime Branch of the Jammu and Kashmir Police during a raid in the area, they said. He was involved in a 2009 case of fraud and cheating through swiping machines by misusing counterfeit, cloned and illegally acquired credit cards, police said. Sethi was evading arrest despite a court issued warrant against him, they said.

### CASO Carried Out In Budgam

Srinagar: State forces on Tuesday resumed cordon and search operation (CASO) in Kawoosa village of central Kashmir's Budgam district after it was halted late Monday night due to darkness. Officials said that search operation has resumed in Kawoosa village in the morning. Earlier, a joint team of police, army and CRPF launched a cordon and search operation in Kawoosa area of Narbal on Monday afternoon based on a specific input about the presence of militants in the area. "As the joint team of" **P-02**

### 4.4 Magnitude Earthquake Hits Kargil

An earthquake of magnitude 4.4 on the Richter scale jolted Kargil in Ladakh on Tuesday, according to the National Centre for Seismology (NCS). The earthquake occurred 435-km north-northwest of Kargil at 5.47 am.

## Firearms Used On Ladakh LAC After 45 Years

Armed With Spears And Clubs, Chinese Troops Attempts To Close In On Indian Position

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI/BEIJING: India on Tuesday said Chinese troops attempted to close in on its position in eastern Ladakh a day earlier and fired shots in the air, in a rapid escalation of tensions where firearms were used along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) after 45 years.

The fresh confrontation in Rezang-La ridge line in eastern Ladakh on Monday evening where the soldiers of the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) carried clubs and spears erupted three days after the defence ministers of India and China held talks in Moscow, and ahead of an expected meeting between their foreign ministers in the Russian capital on Thursday.

As India and China accused each other of firing in the air near the Pangong lake at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh on Monday, the Indian Army said that despite the 'grave provocation' its troops exercised 'great restraint' and behaved in a mature and responsible manner.

In the instant case on September 7, it was the PLA troops who were attempting to close-in with one of our forward positions along the LAC and when dissuaded by own (Indian) troops, PLA troops fired a few rounds in the air in an attempt to intimidate own troops," the Army said in a statement. An identical statement was also issued by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA).

The previous instance of shots being fired at the de-facto border was in 1975. Provisions of an agreement of 1996 and another inked in 2005 mandate the two sides not to use firearms during any confrontation.

The statement by the Indian Army came after the PLA late on Monday night alleged that the Indian troops crossed the LAC and 'outrageously fired' warning



File Photo

### India Must Stop 'Dangerous Actions': China

Press Trust Of India

BEIJING: As a fresh border confrontation erupted between Indian and Chinese troops in eastern Ladakh, China on Tuesday said that India has been asked to immediately stop its "dangerous actions", withdraw the people who crossed the line and discipline its front-line troops and those who fired the warning shots and then make sure won't happen again.

Echoing the PLA's comments, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian

at a media briefing sought to blame Indian troops for firing warning shots first on Monday.

Asked about Indian allegations that it was Chinese troops which took provocative steps first, he read out the statement of the PLA's Western Theater command spokesman on Monday alleging that Indian troops illegally crossed the LAC and outrageously fired warning shots on Chinese border patrol soldiers forcing them to take countermeasures.

I also want to stress in this incident, the Indian

### PLA Has Found 5 Missing Arunachal Youths: Rijiju

China's People's Liberation Army has confirmed that five youths missing from Arunachal Pradesh have been found by them and their handing over process to Indian authorities is being worked out, Union minister Kiren Rijiju said on Tuesday. The five youths had gone missing on Friday from the Sino-Indian

shots near the Pangong lake. 'At no stage has the Indian Army transgressed across the LAC

or resorted to use of any aggressive means, including firing. It is the PLA that has been blatantly

violating agreements and carrying out aggressive manoeuvres, while engagement

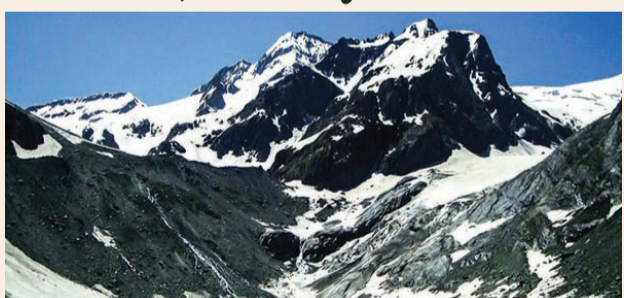
**IN THE INSTANT CASE ON SEPTEMBER 7, IT WAS THE PLA TROOPS WHO WERE attempting to close-in with one of our forward positions along the LAC and when dissuaded by own (Indian) troops, PLA troops fired a few rounds in the air in an attempt to intimidate own troops.'**

## J&K Glaciers Melting At 'Significant' Rate, Study Finds

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR- Glaciers in Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh are melting at a "significant" rate, according to a first-of-its-kind study which used satellite data to find that over 1,200 glaciers in the Himalayan region saw an annual reduction in mass of 35 centimetres (cm) on average between 2000 and 2012.

The study, published in the journal Scientific Reports, was carried over the Jammu, Kashmir, and Ladakh region, including areas across the Line of



File Photo

Control (LoC) and Line of Actual Control (LAC), and in all 12,243 glaciers were studied for thickness and mass changes.

"In general, it was observed that

the glaciers in the Pir Panjal range are melting at the higher rate — more than one metre per year — while as the glaciers in the Karakoram range are melting

## Two More Youth Go Missing From Pulwama

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Two more youth, including a student has gone missing from south Kashmir's Pulwama district sparking fears of them of having joined militant ranks.

Mohsin Amin Bhat of Chursoo village of Awantipora has gone missing from August 29 and since then his whereabouts remain unknown, his father Mohammad Amin said Tuesday. He said after failing to find his son for three days, the family lodged a missing report on September 1 at the concerned police station.

Bhat, according to his father was pursuing his BA degree from

### 3 Lashkar OGWs Held In Bandipora: Police

Three "overground workers" of the Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT) have been arrested in north Kashmir's Bandipora district and incriminating materials found in their possession, police said

Islamia College of Science and Commerce here in this capital city. However, due to the coronavirus pandemic and

## Monitoring Cell To Check Timely Redressal Of Grievances In J&K

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir administration will set up a monitoring cell to compile and forward all public grievances to deputy commissioners concerned in districts to ensure their timely redressal, officials said Tuesday.

The cell is being launched on the direction of Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha to address public grievances related to different sectors.

The implementation of different schemes needs to be monitored uniformly and effectively across all districts to ensure their timely completion Chief Secretary BVR Subrahmanyam said, chairing a meeting with all the deputy commissioners here.

## CEO Anantnag Seeks Nod For Open Air Classes

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The authorities of education department in south Kashmir's Anantnag district on Tuesday sought permission from the administration to start class work in open fields while following the prescribed Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's). Chief Education Officer (CEO) Anantnag, Abdul Rub Shad said Tuesday that the education department has sought permission from district administration to start class work in open fields followed by the prescribed SOP's.

ministration wants to conduct class work, they have to hold it in the open fields followed by the prescribed SOP's," Shad said.

He said that as of now only community classes were going on in upper belts of Anantnag district.

"The far flung areas of the district wherein internet facility is unavailable or the areas wherein the students san smart phones, the local teachers are holding community classes in open fields," Shad said.

He also said that if any student wants to take classes in those community schools, they can take part in it by observing the SOP's.

Pertinently, the government ordered closure of schools

## in FOCUS / 'Filla Nepal': Kashmir's Jolly Advocate Who Bravely Fought Double Cancer

Auqib Javeed

As critically-ill patients became captives in their home in the Covid-plagued spring of 2020, an affable advocate missing two of his crucial therapies in lockdown broadcasted a beseeching appeal on his social media handle: "Need your dua only." Four and a half months later, he bid an adieu with the same message: "Alwidaa Dosto. Dua me yaad Karana."

Bilal Ahmad popularly known as Filla Nepal posted the telling comment on his Facebook profile in April 2020.

His peers reckon that the quote complimented the defiant man's character—known for taking things head-on in his 51-year-long life.

But what amazed many was the timing of this public post.

"Here was the man literally being consumed by the cancer and yet he stuck to his old defiant guns—the trait that always set him apart in his tribe," said Gulzar Bhat, an acquaintance who knew Filla from their college days.



reared its ugly and was now spreading in his body parts and yet the vintage Filla was daring his enemy, this time an invisible one, like he always did." But after fighting hard that saw

him getting haggard, pale and skinny, the advocate finally lost the battle of his life on September 7, 2020. His passage evoked massive condolences and tributes.

Much of the reaction had to do with the deceased's "larger than life" image.

"Words can give little consolation to relieve grief," advocate Nasir Qadri said in his tribute to a man whom he called remarkable for his exemplary grit. "Brother Bilal, Filla Nepal, your humor, hope was an inspiration to me."

As a public figure known for his sway and social contacts, Filla came from Srinagar's Dalgate area.

Right from the word go, his friends recalled, the late advocate cut a daredevil image for himself. As a no nonsense person, his fiery campus activism would later propel him to take law as his profession.

"He was a hardcore pro-Kashmir man," Showkat Ahmad, his childhood buddy, told Kashmir Observer. "As a friend and mentor, he would go out of his way to help people." He was equally a Samaritan and philanthropist, taking care of destitute sections of the society, his friend informed.

The deceased, he said, left behind two wives and five kids. "He was called Filla Nepal