



Maximum : 29°C SUNSET  
 Today 06:37 PM  
 Minimum : 14°C SUNRISE  
 Humidity : 48% Tomorrow 06:14 AM

# OBSERVER

**23<sup>rd</sup>** year OF PUBLICATION

**KASHMIR**

26 Muharram-ul-Haraam | 1442 Hijri | Vol: 23 | Issue: 202 | Pages: 08 | Price: ₹3

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## News Digest

### BSF Trooper Dies Of Breathlessness

Srinagar: A Border Security Force (BSF) trooper posted in the frontier Kupwara district died of breathlessness, reports said Monday. Head Constable Sugna Ram posted at BSF Camp Trehgam in the border district Kupwara complained of breathlessness following which he was taken to the military hospital Drugmulla for treatment, news agency KNT reported. However, the doctors there pronounced him dead on arrival. The deceased was affiliated with 102 Battalion BSF, the report said. Meanwhile, police have started inquest proceedings under section 174 CrPC in this regard.

### Explosive Device Defused In Pattan

Baramulla- The state forces on Monday morning claimed to have recovered some suspicious explosive material at Pattan area along Srinagar to Baramulla highway which was later destroyed. An explosive material was spotted by the Road Opening Party (ROP) of Army at Kutta mode in Pattan in north Kashmir's Baramulla district this morning, reported news agency KNO. The material as per the officials was defused later successfully by the Bomb Disposal Squad (BDS), 29 RR, CRPF and Police. However, there was no loss of life or property in the incident.

### Police Refutes Qazigund Firing Report

Srinagar: Police on Monday refuted reports about a militant attack in Dalwachi area of Qazigund in South Kashmir's Kulgam district. A senior Police officer told news agency GNS that three firing-like sounds were heard near Dalwachi Qazigund where police and CRPF were deployed. After thorough investigation it was determined that the sounds came from the silencer of a Maruti Van which was crossing the checkpoint. "No firing had taken place in the area, the officer said, adding "public is requested not to propagate rumours of firing on naka party."

### Elderly Man Injured By Bear

Srinagar: An elderly man on Monday was attacked and injured by a bear in north Kashmir's Kupwara district. 65-years- old Mohammad Ahsan Shah was attacked by the beast at Muqam-e-Shahwali area of Kupwara on Monday afternoon, officials said. Shah received injuries in the bear attack and was removed to the nearby hospital for treatment. A health official told news agency KNS that the condition of injured elderly man was stable.

### ZEO Office Shut As Officer Tests Positive

Srinagar: Authorities on Monday closed Zonal Education Office in the border town of Uri after an officer tested positive for COVID19 infection. An officer at the ZEO office Uri tested positive on Sunday which prompted the authorities to close the office till further orders, local news agency GNS reported. The report quoted an unnamed official as saying that Sub-division magistrate Uri issued directions for closure of the office till further orders. "Directions have been given to local Municipal committee for sanitization of office building" the official added.

## LADAKH FACE-OFF

# Situation Tense At Friction Points Along LAC

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The overall situation at friction points in eastern Ladakh remains unchanged and continues to be tense, four days after foreign ministers of India and China agreed on a five-point plan to resolve the prolonged border standoff, government sources said on Monday.

The sources also said both the Indian and Chinese troops are firmly holding onto their respective positions at the Line of Actual Control (LAC).

They said while the situation in the region continues to be tense no fresh movement of Chinese troops was witnessed. The Indian Army will not lower its guard and will maintain the current state of very high-level of combat readiness in eastern Ladakh till there are visible changes in the ground situation, the sources added.

The sources said the date for the much-anticipated Corps commander-level talks between the two armies is yet to

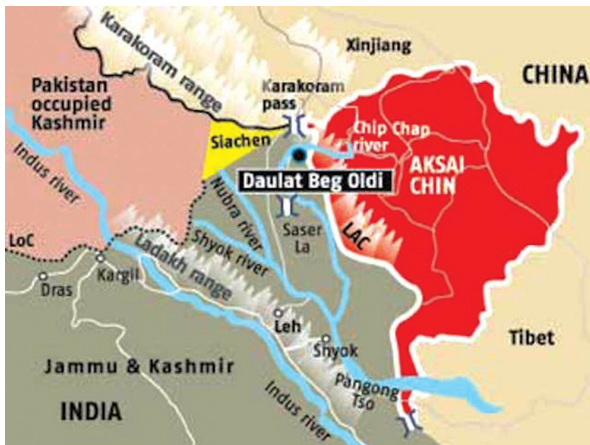


Image for representation

### DM Likely To Make Statement In Parliament

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh is likely to make a statement in Parliament on Tuesday on the continuing standoff between Indian and Chinese troops along the LAC in eastern Ladakh, Parliamentary sources said. ● P-02

be firmed up but it is likely to take place in the next few days.

The military talks are expected to focus on implementation of certain provisions of

the five-point consensus to ease tensions.

India and China reached an agreement to resolve their border row at a meeting ● PAGE 02

## Another Soldier's Brother Goes Missing

Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR: A brother of an army man has gone missing from south Kashmir's Pulwama district, barely a week after police filed a missing report after a soldier's brother went missing in the neighbouring Anantnag district.

20-year-old Junaid Rashid Wani of Tumluhal village in Lassipora Pulwama has gone missing from last week, his family said Monday. A first semester student of GDC Pulwama, Wani was last seen by his family when he left to bring fodder for cattle.

Wani's sudden disappearance came at a time when the family was making preparations for the engagement of his brother, who is a soldier in Indian army.

"We tried to contact him but his cell phone was repeatedly off. Then we called all relatives and his friends but couldn't find him," Wani's father Abdul Rashid said.

On September 10, he said the family approached police station Lassipora and filed a missing complaint.

Meanwhile, the family has made a fervent appeal to Wani to return home. They have also urged militant groups and the state forces to return the youth, if he was in their custody.

Quoting an unnamed senior police officer, news agency KNO said that all angles of the youth's disappearance were being checked and efforts were on to trace him.

Pertinently, on Tuesday last Yasir Ahmed of Dooru in Anantnag also went missing ● PAGE 02

## Major Legal Changes In J&K Generating Deep Anxiety: UNHCHR

'Rights To Freedom Of Expression And Association Curtailed In Pak Kashmir Too'

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet on Monday expressed concern over the situation in Kashmir saying that government of India's August 5 move followed by domicile laws were generating deep anxiety among the people across Jammu and Kashmir.

In her inaugural statement at the 45th session of the Human Rights Council on Monday, Michelle alleged that in Kashmir, incidents of military and police violence against civilians continue, including use of pellet guns, as well



File Pic

as incidents related to militancy.

"It has been more than a year since my last report on both Indian and Pakistan-administered

Kashmir. Major legal changes – including to the Constitution and domicile rules – are generating deep anxiety, but the ● PAGE 02

## Centre Soon To Announce Financial Package For J&K: LG

Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir's Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said on Monday that government of India will soon announce a financial package to revive the economy of the Union Territory.

Addressing a news conference at Raj Bhawan here on Monday, Sinha said that a committee constituted to suggest a package for the revival of business and other ailing sectors of J&K has submitted its report which is under consideration of the Government of India and a "big announcement about a massive financial package will be made within a week."

Terming the Back ● PAGE 02



No Photo Avail Bhar

### LG Reviews Covid-19 Management

Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Monday took stock of Covid-19 situation in Jammu and Kashmir in two back to back video conferences with all Deputy Commissioners and Doctors in the Union Territory. Taking cognizance of the various media reports regarding problems being faced ● P-02

### 'There Will Be No Injustice In Shopian Case'

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said at a press conference here on Monday that a probe is going on into the July 18 Shopian encounter case and the government will ensure that there is no injustice. He said the administration and the army are probing the case and there won't be any injustice. "I will ensure that there is no injustice," the LG said. ● P-02

## NC MPs Seek Discussion On Kashmir Situation In Parliament

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: National Conference MPs on Monday sought a discussion in Parliament on the situation of Jammu and Kashmir, citing the "unprecedented situation" in the Union Territory in the wake of the "unilateral, unconstitutional and undemocratic rescinding" of Articles 370 and 35A.

The party's Members of Parliament in the Lok Sabha -- Farooq Abdullah, Muhammad Akbar Lone and Hasnain Masoodi -- claimed that post August 5, 2019, there has been a "surge" in the incidents of violence and skirmishes on the Line of Control and the Line of Actual Control almost on daily basis. "The Government of India's (GOI)

### Farooq Raises Issue Of Dysfunctional Ventilators In Jammu

National Conference President Farooq Abdullah Monday attended the Monsoon Session of Parliament for the first time after a gap of more than a year since the abrogation of Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir. Abdullah raises issue of oxygen shortage, ● P-02

August 5, 2019 decision of shearing the erstwhile state of J-K of its constitutional position and its division and downgrading into ● PAGE 02

## In FOCUS

# Grounded 'Flight' At Srinagar Airport

Auqib Javed

Ajas, Bandipora – Barely 15 hours after her New Delhi 'flight' was cut short at Srinagar Airport, the 22-year-old Ajas girl began voicing her flouted story.

Along with her minor "niece", the girl was caught with an army man—Lance Naik Ashok Kumar Paul of Uttar Pradesh—posted some meters away from her residence, in 13 Kashtriya Rifles camp.

Inside their two-storied, concrete house, the girl's family wore long faces and struggled with

words. They didn't raise their eyes throughout the conversation.

Everything, they said, was going well, before they denied their daughter's hand to one of their pushy relatives – an army soldier posted outside Kashmir.

"He stood adamant," Ghulam Hassan (not his real name), the 60-year-old father of the girl told Kashmir Observer. "His desperation for my daughter was intimidating."

Hassan, a smalltime trader, lives with six daughters, including three-married ones, and three labourer sons.

To drive out the destitution in



Image for representation

her family, the daughter—the one caught with soldier at Srinagar Airport—started her own Khidmat Centre, in the village, with the help of an acquaintance.

In a short span of time, she managed to get a Laptop, Xerox Machine and other essentials to run the centre.

However, getting a laptop was a "big thing" in the village, she told Kashmir Observer at her home.

"My neighbours and friends started questioning me about how I managed the laptop," the girl said. "Since I know they won't believe me, so I told them it belongs to my brother-in-law."

But the same brother-in-law's identity would soon come to haunt her.

She would frequent his Hajin house, "to pay a visit to my sister", before one fine day he was detained in a "militancy related case".

"I used to visit my sister's house because she was pregnant at that time," the girl continued. "It was then, some people, who were jealous of me, started spreading rumours that I was a courier of a local militant commander." ● PAGE 02

## ...BUDGAM CHOPPER FIASCO

# Military Tribunal Stays Action Against 2 IAF Officers

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: An armed forces tribunal on Monday stayed disciplinary action against two officers who were held responsible for circumstances leading to the shooting down of an Mi-17 helicopter of the IAF by its own missile in Kashmir's Budgam on February 27 last year when the Indian and Pakistani air forces were engaged in a fierce dogfight.

The disciplinary action initiated by the Indian Air Force against Group Captain SR Chowdhary and Wing Commander Shyam Naithani based on a Court of Inquiry into the crash of the chopper has been stayed by the Principal Bench of the Armed Forces



File Pic

Tribunal, Advocate Ankur Chibber, the lawyer of the two officers, said.

A high-level probe by the IAF found that a surface-to-air missile of the force brought down the chopper. Six IAF personnel on board the chopper and a civilian on the ground were killed in the crash.

The helicopter crashed in Budgam at around 10 AM on ● PAGE 02