



Maximum : 19°C
Minimum : 07°C
Humidity : 38%

SUNSET
Today 05:30 PM
SUNRISE
Tomorrow 06:59 AM



News Digest

Man Lodged In Anantnag Jail Dies

Srinagar- A 45-year-old man from Kulgam district of south Kashmir lodged in a jail in Anantnag district has died, official sources said on Monday. They said that quadragenarian identified as Shahzad Ahmed Wani of Shalipora area in Kulgam was lodged in district Jail in Anantnag. He was arrested under provisions of Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act last year. Medical Superintendent GMC Anantnag Dr Iqbal Sofi said that Wani was brought dead and later postmortem was done, reported news agency GNS. Block Medical Officer ● P-02

Party Revokes Bhim Singh's Expulsion

Jammu: Days after his expulsion from the post of chief patron after meeting the leaders of the Peoples Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD) here, the Jammu and Kashmir National Panthers Party (JKNPP) on Monday revoked the exclusion of its founder Bhim Singh terming his visit purely as "personal". The JKNPP on Saturday had removed Singh from the post, saying "there is no place in the party for those who disrespect Jammu region's sentiment". Singh had attended the meeting of the PAG at the ● P-02

Army Major Found Dead In Rajouri

Jammu- An army Major died with bullet injury in his head in Rajouri district of Jammu, officials said on Monday. Police says that the death of the officer identified as Major VineetGullia, company commander of army's 38RR post at DherakiGali (DKG) is mysterious, reported news agency GNS. SDPO Thanamandisajid Khan said that proceedings under 174 CrPC have been launched in connection with the death. SSP RajouriChandanKohli said that a police team has reached the spot and is investigating the matter. A police official said that suicide was a possibility and the police proceedings encompass all angles.

Four More Covid-19 Deaths In Ladakh

Leh: Ladakh has reported four more coronavirus-related fatalities and 19 new cases, taking the number of deaths due to the infection in the Union Territory to 84 and the caseload to 6,809, a bulletin said on Monday. With 66 more patients cured of the contagion, the number of active cases in the region stands at 765 -- 655 in Leh district and 110 in Kargil district, the bulletin released by directorate of health services, UT Ladakh, read. It said three patients ● P-02

Youth Held Over Shrine Theft

Srinagar: Police on Monday claimed to have arrested a youth involved in burglaryat famous Dastageer Sahib Shrinehere in September this year. In a statement issued here, a police spokesperson said that on September 13, police station Khanyar received an information from Intizamia Committee of the Zeyarat Sharief Dastageer Sahib Khanyar that during intervening night of September 12/13 some unknown thief /thieves have entered the shrine and broke ● P-02

J&K On Sale, Residents Feeling Suffocated: Mehbooba Mufti

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Describing the Centre's move to nullify Article 370 and bifurcate J&K into two Union Territories last year as "desecration of the Constitution", PDP president Mehbooba Mufti on Monday alleged that the BJP had put the erstwhile state on sale to "loot its resources" and deprive the locals of the protection to their land and jobs.

Mehbooba, who is also the former chief minister, said they will continue the fight under the banner of the Peoples Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD) here, the Jammu and Kashmir National Panthers Party (JKNPP) on Monday revoked the exclusion of its founder Bhim Singh terming his visit purely as "personal".

"The people in Jammu are more upset and I feel the situation here is worse than in Kashmir. They were misled to believe that Article 370 and Article 35A is a benefit to Kashmiri Muslims and its abrogation will pave the



PDP President Mehbooba Mufti addressing media in Jammu on Monday.

BJP Converted J&K Into 'Testing Lab': NC

The National Conference (NC) on Monday accused the BJP of converting Jammu and Kashmir into a testing laboratory of "injurious and ill-considered policies" and plunging the entire region into "chaos and

way for flowing of streams of milk, setting up of industries and jobs for the youth. Today, they are disappointed," she told reporters here at the end of her five-day visit to Jammu -- her first after being released from 14 months detention

Will Hold Tricolour And J&K Flag Together'
Militancy On Rise Under BJP Rule'
BJP to meet same electoral fate as Trump'

Durbar Offices Reopen In Jammu

JAMMU: The Civil Secretariat, the seat of the Jammu and Kashmir administration, reopened in Jammu on Monday as part of the biannual 'Durbar Move' after functioning in Srinagar during the summer season.

The nearly 150-year-old practice was started by Maharaja Gulab Singh in 1872 to escape the summer heat of Jammu and the cold winters in Srinagar.

Tight security arrangements have been put in place to ensure smooth functioning of the civil secretariat and other move offices, including the Raj Bhavan and the police headquarters in Jammu, officials said.

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha arrived at the ● P-02

Coronavirus Claims 9 More Lives In J&K

Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR: At least nine people, six among them from this capital city succumbed to coronavirus infection on Monday, taking the number of fatalities since the outbreak of pandemic in Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory to 1545.

Kashmir Valley reported eight more Covid-19 related deaths, while a middle-aged man succumbed to the virus in Arima area of Jammu district, official said Monday.

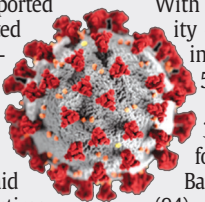
In Valley, officials said six out of the eight victims were residents of Srinagar city, including a 95-year-old woman from

Jawahar Nagar, a 70-year-old man from Bota Kadal, an 85-year-old woman from Lal Bazaar, a 70-year-old man from Syedpora, a 61-year-old man from Gogji Bagh and a 55-year-old man from Natipora.

The two other victims from the Valley were residents of Baramulla and Kupwara districts of north Kashmir.

With these deaths, the fatality count has reached 1545 in J&K--1025 in Valley and 520 in the Jammu region.

Srinagar district with 381 deaths tops the list followed by Jammu (270), Baramulla (149), Budgam (94), Pulwama (83), Kupwara (75), Anantnag (76), Rajouri (48), Kulgam (48), Bandipora(47), Doda



460 New Cases Take Tally Closer To 1L Mark

Coronavirus cases in Jammu and Kashmir on Monday inched closer to one lakh mark as the Union Territory reported 460 new cases, including 34 travelers, a CRPF man and two minors. Kashmir valley reported 307 fresh cases of coronavirus while the remaining ● P-02

(48), Shopian (35), Ganderbal (35), Udhampur (32), Kathua (33), Samba (25), Poonch (23), Ramban (18), Kishtwar (15), and Reasi (8), (With GNS inputs)

DDC Polls Will Be Fought On Party Symbols: Dr Farooq

Press Trust Of India

KATHUA : People's Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD) chairperson Farooq Abdullah on Monday said candidates of the amalgam's constituents will fight the District Development Council (DDC) polls in Jammu and Kashmir on their own party symbols.

Seven mainstream political parties of Jammu and Kashmir, including the National Conference (NC), the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) and the CPI(M), had last month formed the PAGD to fight for restoration of special status of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir.

The BJP-led Centre on August 5 last year had abrogated the erstwhile state's special status and bi-

furcated it into union territories of Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh.

"The PAGD had decided that we all fight the DDC elections together but a single symbol cannot be granted so we will fight the elections on our party symbols and put up joint candidates of all parties," senior NC leader Abdullah told reporters at Lakhanpur here.

Members of the alliance at a meeting in Jammu on Saturday had announced that they would unitedly fight the upcoming DDC elections in the Union Territory.

Elections to DDCs will be held in eight phases from December 1 to December 24, according to a notification issued by the State Election Commission.

Asked about his reaction

3 Former PDP Leaders Join Cong

JAMMU: Three senior PDP leaders, who recently resigned from the party over remarks of its president Mehbooba Mufti on the tricolour, joined the Congress on Monday, ahead of the District Development Council (DDC) polls in Jammu and Kashmir.

Former MP Tarlok Singh Bajwa, ex-MLC Ved Mahajan and former PDP state secretary Hussain Ali Waffa resigned from the party last month.

They joined the Congress in the presence of the party's in-charge for Jammu and Kashmir affairs Rajni Patil, All India Congress Committee secretary Sudhir Sharma ● P-02

Machil Operation On To Rule Out Presence Of Militants: BSF

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: The BSF on Monday said the operation along the LoC in north Kashmir's Machil sector, in which four forces personnel and three militants were killed on Sunday, was on to rule out the presence of other militants in the area.

Three Army personnel, including an officer, a BSF constable and three militants were killed along the Line of Control (LoC) in Machil sector in north Kashmir's Kupwara district.

"The operation is still on. The area comprises a tough terrain and uneven ground. To rule out the presence of any other militant, a sanitisation operation is on in the area. We will satisfy ourselves that no militant is there," Additional Direc-



Soldier carrying coffin of their colleague who was killed in Macchil gunfight on Sunday.

tor General of the Border Security Force (BSF) Surinder Pawar said. He was speaking to reporters on

the sidelines of the wreath-laying ceremony of Constable Sudir Sarkar at the BSF STC, Humhama

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MeT Predicts Two-Day Wet Spell In Valley From Saturday

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The weather department on Monday predicted heavy snow and rainfall in higher reaches of Jammu and Kashmir for two days from Saturday, causing disruption in air and surface traffic and cut off Valley from rest of the world.

Deputy Director Meteorological department (MeT), Mukhtar Ahmad said that there is possibility of light to moderate snow and rainfall in plains of Jammu and Kashmir from November 14-15.

He added that the higher reaches of J&K would also receive heavy rain or snowfall in between the two days from the intervening night of 13-14 November.

Ahmad also stated that the weather conditions would start improving

from November 15 late evening, but the weather would remain cloudy on November 16 as well.

Meanwhile, the MeT also issued an advisory in which it stated that the weather conditions from November 14 may lead to temporary disruption of air and surface transportation in the Union Territory.

"An active Western Disturbance is most likely to affect the Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh and adjoining areas from 13 (evening) to 15 (late night) November 2020," it said.

It added that under the influence of this weather system, widespread moderate rain/snow is expected in Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh regions. Light rains and snow would commence at a few places of Kashmir on 13 (night) and thereafter

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In FOCUS Biden's K-Bidding: Will There Be Change In Himalayan Discourse?

Auqib Javeed

Last time when Donald Trump's predecessor Barack Obama made a vocal entry in White House, the lingering Himalayan dispute looked set for settlement.

But years later, as the strife still hangs like a Damocles' sword over the region, the likes of Riyaz Malik, a noted journalist in Srinagar, have only grown weary of Uncle Sam's political will to put the South Asia's 'nuke trigger' to rest.

"Just like his predecessor, Trump's successor Joe Biden can't make any drastic changes in US's South Asia policy," Malik, who



edits the reputed Urdu daily of Srinagar, Kashmir Uzma, said.

But yes, the scribe continued, Biden can strike some balance in the troubled relationship between

India and Pakistan—the two-nuke-armoured neighbours currently at loggerheads—by pushing them for talks on Kashmir.

"While I don't see major changes

happening in Kashmir, Biden can restore some confidence in this region by encouraging Indo-Pak dialogue," the editor said.

During Biden's tenure, Malik believes, Kashmiris will be eagerly battling for the 'improved' Indo-Pak relations for ending the ongoing tensions in their homeland.

Even Pakistan seems counting on its "friend"—whom they bestowed with the second-highest civilian honour, 'Hilal-e-Pakistan', in 2008.

While Islamabad enjoys cordial relations with Biden, an old diplomat, the country reportedly faced troubles with Donald Trump due to the corporate honcho's "uncer-

tain style of politics".

Biden's Kashmir Say

In Joe Biden's advent as 46th president of the United States, many not only see a 'sense of normalcy' in the polarized world order, but also shift in the Kashmir discourse.

Only in June this year, Biden had criticized New Delhi's move to revoke special status of Jammu and Kashmir on 5 August 2019.

He compared the plight of Muslims in Kashmir with that of Rohingyas in Bangladesh and Uyghur Muslims in China.

"In Kashmir, the Indian government should take all necessary steps to restore rights for all the people of Kashmir," Biden

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