



Maximum : 12°  
Minnum : -3°  
Humidity : 36%

SUNSET  
Today 05:24 PM  
SUNRISE  
Tomorrow 07:09 AM



## NEWS DIGEST

### GOC 16 Corps, LG Discuss Situation

**JAMMU:** A senior army commander on Thursday briefed Lt Governor Manoj Sinha on the overall security situation in the Union Territory, including the Line of Control (LoC) and on the anti-militancy front.

General Officer Commanding, GOC, 16 Corps Lieutenant General MV Suchindra Kumar called on LG at the Raj Bhavan here and discussed important security issues and the overall security management in the Union Territory with him, an official spokesperson said. The army commander, he said briefed the LG about the prevailing scenario along the forward areas including the LoC.

"Anti-militancy operations and matters pertaining to coordination with other state forces were also briefed by the GOC," he said.

The LG, he said appreciating the government forces for their operational synergy and their success in recent counter-militancy operations said that sustained coordination between security forces and the civil administration is crucial to meet security challenges in Jammu and Kashmir.

### Tral Shuts Down Against Power 'Hike'

**SRINAGAR:** The residents in Tral town of south Kashmir's Pulwama district on Thursday observed a token half-day strike against what they termed unprecedented 'hike' in the electricity tariff by the Kashmir Power Development Corporation Limited (KPDCL).

According to local news gathering agency KNT, all shops in Tral town remained shut for half-day while the public transport was also off the roads in response to the call given by Citizen's Council Tral against the alleged power hike by the KPDCL. The report also said that a protest was also led by Chairman Citizens Council Farooq Trali.

"The protesters decried the hike in electricity charges and asked department not to over-charge consumers," the report said, adding "They said the issue about power-hike was raised on numerous occasions but no action has come so far and hence they are forced to stage this protest."

The report quoted MD Kashmir Power Discom, Aijaz Asad as saying that no hike in Power Tariff has been done by the Regulator.

"In fact, tariff levels in Jammu and Kashmir remain unchanged for the past 4 years," he said.

### ANC Sarpanch Candidate Wins Unopposed

**SRINAGAR:** Awami National Conference (ANC) has bagged the Sarpanch seat from Kijpara block of central Kashmir's Kangan town.

Shabir Ahmed Mir who was fielded by ANC for the constituency was declared victorious after BJP candidate withdrew his nomination form.

ANC has termed this as the victory of people and hoped that people will participate in coming DDC elections in large numbers and will defeat the Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP).

### Cab Driver Killed In Gurez Accident

**SRINAGAR:** A cab driver on Thursday was killed while six passengers were injured in a road accident in Gurez valley of north Kashmir's Bandipora district on Thursday evening.

Sub division police officer (SDPO) Gurez, Peerzada Ajaz said that a passenger cab (JK15-2335), skidded off the road at Check-Nallah village in Gurez, resulting in on spot death of the driver.

He identified the deceased as Muhammad Najmudin of Gujran, Tulail.

He also said that six persons, who were also travelling in the vehicle were injured and have been shifted to Sub district hospital Dawar for special treatment.

The police officer identified them as Rehamtulla Lone, Abdul Gafar lone, Zahoor Khan, Farooq Ahmad Lone, Zameer Ahmad Khan, Abdul Majeed Khan, all residents of Gujraan and Muhammad Sultan Lone of Muzgund Tulail. (KNO)

# 4 Militants Killed In Pre-Dawn Highway Shootout

**JAMMU:** Four militants were killed and two policemen injured in a gun-battle on the Jammu-Srinagar highway after a truck carrying them was intercepted on the outskirts of Jammu city on Thursday, top police officials said.

The militants had come to execute a "big plan" which has now been foiled, Inspector General of Police (IGP), Jammu, Mukesh Singh, said.

In Srinagar, IGP, Kashmir, Vijay Kumar said the four militants were on their way to the Kashmir Valley to disturb the District Development Council (DDC) polls scheduled later this month, as Pakistan has been trying to cause trouble in the political process.

Giving details of the encounter, IGP Mukesh Singh told a press conference in Jammu that ever since the announcement of DDC polls, police have been receiving inputs about a possible infiltration bid by militants in Jammu.

"We had kept our all teams deployed at check points. There were intelligence inputs that militants may sneak in with large quantities of arms and ammunition," the IGP Jammu said.

A truck was stopped at Ban toll plaza in Nagrota area at 5 am for checking, but the driver left the vehicle and fled, **► More On P2**

## 2 Militants Escape From Army Dragnet In Pulwama

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** The militants, one of them purportedly a top Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) commander, have managed to escape after a brief encounter with a state forces in Parigam area of south Kashmir's Pulwama district on Thursday, officials said.

A police senior officer said that as per specific inputs two militants including JeM commander with code name "Lambu Bhai" were trapped. The officer said that the militants

"seem to have fled soon after the encounter broke out." However, the officer said that the searches in the area are continuing, reported news agency GNS.

The encounter which lasted for a brief span of time had ensued after a joint team of Police, Army and CRPF launched a cordon and search operation in Parigam village this afternoon.

As the joint team approached towards the suspected spot, the hiding militants had fired upon the forces, triggering off the brief encounter.

## Outside Forces Can't Derail Peace Mission: LG

**JAMMU:** No outside force can derail the mission of peace and progress of the Jammu and Kashmir administration, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said on Thursday as he paid a visit to a hospital here to enquire about the well-being of policemen injured in an encounter. **► More On P2**

## Measures Being Taken To Check Infiltration: BSF DG

**SRINAGAR:** Amid a spike in infiltration attempts by militants along the Line of Control (LoC), the BSF chief on Thursday said the period before very heavy snowfall in Kashmir is "very suitable" for militants to cross over to this side and that security forces were prepared to tackle the situation. **► More On P2**

## PIL For Guidelines On Admission Of CWSN

## HC Grants Govt 4 Weeks To File Reply

**SRINAGAR:** Jammu and Kashmir High Court has granted government four weeks more time to file response to a Public Interest Litigation, seeking issuance of the appropriate guidelines for admission of Children with Special Needs (CWSN) under Right To Education Act.

A division bench of Chief Justice Gita Mittal and Justice Puneet Gupta granted the time after NH Shah, Sr. AAG, representing the authorities, sought further time to file the reply.

"Let him file the same within four weeks," the court said, adding, "Rest of the respondents who have not filed the reply shall also file the same within the aforesaid period."

The PIL also seeks directions from the court to ensure the admission, attendance and free education of Children with bench mark disability free from cost and any other barriers preventing them from getting quality

education in the Recognized unaided private schools of Jammu and Kashmir.

The PIL has been filed by three persons, two of whom— Zaeer Abbas Jan of Bemina and Mudisar Shaban Dar of Bandipora— have stated that they are two social workers while another— Dr. Chitanjeet Kour of Nanak Nagar Jammu, a physiotherapist doctor by profession.

The petitioners said that Indian Parliament amended part 4 of the Constitution of India and incorporated Article 21 A, a new article in the constitution to incorporate Right to Education of a child between 6 to 14 years as their fundamental right. They said that a duty was imposed on the appropriate government to protect their fundamental right.

In 2009, they said, the Indian parliament enacted the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, a follow up legislation

for implementing the provision of Article 21A of the Constitution of India.

The special provision for the EWS/ DG/CWSN children, they said, has been incorporated in the Act itself to address the practical difficulty.

In 2012, they said, the provisions of right of children to free and compulsory Education Act was interpreted by Supreme Court that each and every child between 6 to 14 years has their fundamental right of not only education but quality education. The top Court not only upheld the provision regarding destitute children but also appreciated the provisions of Act which addresses the specific problems faced by the children belonging to under-privileged category, they said.

The petitioners submitted that they time and again approached the concerned authorities including Chief Secretary and **► More On P2**



File Photo: Abid Bhat

## More Snowfall, Rain In Valley Today

Agencies

**SRINAGAR:** Another spell of rain and snowfall is likely to occur in Jammu and Kashmir in the next 24 hours by Friday, the MET office said on Thursday.

"Scattered to fairly widespread light to moderate rain/snow in Kashmir division. Isolated light rain/snow in Jammu and Ladakh," an official of the local MET department said.

Jammu and Kashmir received its first major snowfall of the season recently which broke a nearly 4-month long dry spell.

The minimum temperature was 0.1 degrees Celsius in Srinagar on Thursday while it was minus 0.7 in Pahalgam and minus 5.4 at the Gulmarg ski resort.

Jammu city recorded 9.8, Banihal 1.0, Batote 4.2, Katra 9.5 and Bhandarwah 1.6 as the minimum temperatures.

## Woman Injured In LoC Firing

**JAMMU:** Pakistani Rangers opened fire and shelled border out posts (BoPs) and hamlets along the International Border in Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua district, leaving a woman injured, officials said on Thursday.

The Pakistani troops targeted several BoPs and few hamlets in Manyari, Sapwal and Karol Krishna on late Wednesday night, prompting an effective retaliation by the BSF, the officials said.

In the exchange of fire, which continued till this morning, one woman suffered injuries at Manyari village, they said. The shelling has triggered panic among border residents.

"We have been facing heavy firing and shelling each night. It has become a regular feature", Manyari resident Kuldeep said.

"Two shells exploded in our compound and one woman family member suffered splinter injuries", Kuldeep said. Several houses and structures have suffered damage in the shelling, he added. (PTI)

## 11th Class Exams From Dec 12

**SRINAGAR:** Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education on Thursday issued the date sheet for conducting annual examinations of Class 11th in Kashmir division.

According to the date sheet, the examination will begin on December 12 and will conclude on January 06, 2021.

As per the notification issued by the BOSE, all the concerned heads of the institutions have been advised to ensure proper heating and sitting arrangements for the candidates appearing in the aforesaid examinations.

They have been also advised to ensure proper sanitization of the exam centers before the commencement of these examinations.

Students appearing in the examinations have been advised to adhere to Covid-19 SOPs such as wearing face masks, ensuring proper social distancing and use of hand sanitizers. (KDC)

## J&K Reports 5 More Corona Deaths, Toll 1618

Observer Monitoring Desk

**SRINAGAR:** Five more people in Jammu and Kashmir succumbed to coronavirus infection on Thursday, taking the total number of fatalities since the outbreak of pandemic in the Union Territory to 1618.

In Kashmir Valley, two more people died of coronavirus on Thursday, while three other deaths caused by the virus were reported from Jammu division. In Valley, the two victims were a 70-year-old woman from Nichama Kupwara and a 73-year-old man from Dalgate here. **► More On P2**

## 560 New Cases Include 50 Travelers

**SRINAGAR:** Jammu and Kashmir reported on Thursday 560 fresh cases of novel coronavirus, including 50 travelers thus taking the total number of people infected by the virus across the Union Territory to 104715.

While Kashmir valley detected 313 new cases of Covid-19 on Thursday, the remaining 247 were confirmed by officials from Jammu division.

## SMC To Hold Mayoral Elections On Nov 25

**SRINAGAR:** After deferring the polls in wake of COVID-19 pandemic, the authorities have finally decided to hold the mayoral elections for Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) on November 25.

According to a notification, issued by Secretary SMC under number SMC/CS/5027-5116, dated 19-11-2020, the polls will be conducted on November 25 while forms of nomination paper will be obtained from the office of the Secretary, SMC from 20th of November.

"In terms of Section 36 of the J&K Municipal Corporation Act, 2000 read with Regulation 6 of J&K Municipal Corporation (Procedure and Conduct of Business) Regulations, 2005, notice is hereby given that the Election of Mayor, Municipal Corporation, Srinagar will be conducted as per the given schedule," reads a notification.

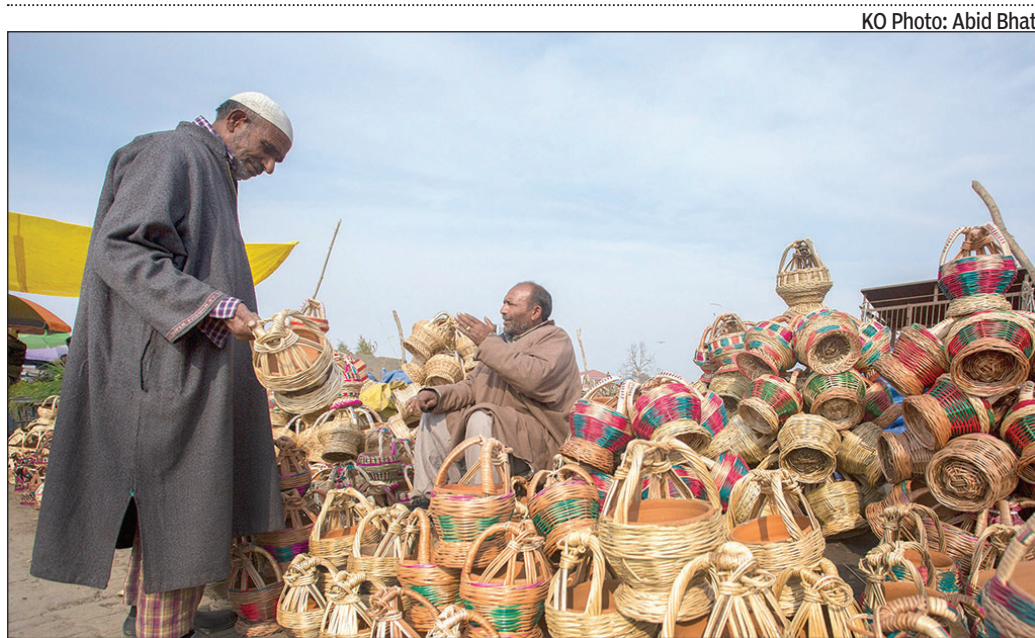
"Forms of Nomination Paper may be obtained from the office of the Secretary, Srinagar Municipal Corporation from 20th of November **► More On P2**

## Government Orders Celebrations On Nov 26

**SRINAGAR:** The authorities on Thursday asked various departments and establishments in Jammu and Kashmir to organize ceremonies of reading of the Preamble to the Constitution on November 26.

"On 26th of November, 1949

the Constitution for the Country was adopted, making the day very sacrosanct for the Country as a whole. To celebrate this auspicious day and sensitize people to the values enshrined in it, it has been decided that the ceremonies of reading **► More On P2**



KO Photo: Abid Bhat

**WINTER WOES:** An elderly man bargains with a 'Kangri' (firepot) seller in an uptown area of Srinagar on Thursday.

# Indira Faced Sharp Criticism For Signing Simla Pact: New Book

**NEW DELHI:** Former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi emerged as the greatest and much-celebrated heroine after India's victory in 1971 war with Pakistan that led to the creation of Bangladesh but faced widespread criticism for signing the Simla Agreement without sorting out the Kashmir issue, says a new book.

The book 'Reporting India: My Seventy-Year Journey as a Journalist' by veteran journalist Prem Prakash, also says that Indira Gandhi "faced huge problems from day one when she took charge of the party and of the country" after the death of Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri.

The book, which has been released recently, notes that Indira Gandhi did not stop her son Sanjay Gandhi from turning into "an extra-constitutional centre of power" during the Emergency and that his "whims and fancies were a law unto themselves".

It provides a glimpse into her personality, noting how she was "very much her own person", "very lonely person" and "a global leader in her own right".

"Indira Gandhi faced huge problems from day one when she took charge of the party and of the country after Shastriji's death. The Bihar drought, food shortages, the upheavals in East Pakistan and over a million refugees

coming into India...She faced this last problem with so much fortitude and success that perhaps nowhere in the world could so many refugees have been sent back to their homes so successfully," says the author, who is Chairman of ANI.

The book says Indira Gandhi took steps to ensure that the army continued to grow stronger with the Army finishing the Bangladesh war in barely eight days and she dashed Pakistan's hopes of becoming militarily equal to or more powerful than India.

"On December 6, 1971, Indian forces moved into East Pakistan. By December 14, General Manekshaw **► More On P2**

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**Winner of 'Awards Asia 2020' in the category 'Workplace of the Year' by Times Higher Education**

**16<sup>th</sup> Annual Convocation**  
**Date:** November 21, 2020 (Saturday) **Time:** 09.30 a.m.

**Chief Guest**  
**Prof. Muhammad Yunus**  
**Founder, Grameen Bank & Nobel Peace Laureate, Bangladesh**  
*will deliver the Convocation Address*

Watch live on [www.kiit.ac.in](http://www.kiit.ac.in) & Kalinga TV from 9.30 a.m. onwards