

P6

LIFE & TIMES

Isolation Stimulates Brain Activity Similar To Hunger Cravings

P5

PANORAMA

Dying Waters of Shairbagh Anantnag

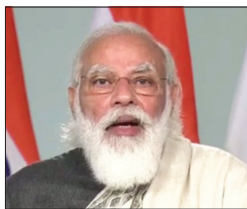
BY HILAL AH. BHAT



P8

OBSERVER OUTPOST

PM Makes Pitch For Simultaneous Elections, One Voters' List



NEWS DIGEST

CRPF Man Injured In Accidental Fire

SRINAGAR: A Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) Head Constable on Thursday was injured in an accidental fire in Humhama area of the city outskirts.

S Barali of CRPF 25 Battalion was critically injured on Thursday when his service rifle went off accidentally at the RTC camp, where he was performing his guard duty, officials said, officials said. The CRPF man was shifted to 92 Base Army Hospital in a critical condition, where he is undergoing treatment for a bullet injury in the neck.

Meanwhile, police have registered a case and started further investigations in this regard.

'Poacher' Arrested In Awantipora

SRINAGAR: Police on Thursday arrested a man on the charges of poaching migratory birds in south Kashmir's Awantipora.

Ghulam Haider, a resident of Balhama Panthachowk was arrested by police on the basis of a complaint that he was poaching migratory birds in Meej area of Pampore, a police official said. A 12-bore rifle was also recovered from his possession.

According to the official, the arrest of the poacher was made in coordination with the wildlife authorities. He added that the police will recommend cancellation of license of the arrested person.

Meanwhile, a case FIR number 94 of 2020 under section 51 wildlife protection Act. Has been registered against Haider in Police Station Pampore.

Crime Branch Charges Retired Police Officer

SRINAGAR: The Crime Branch of police on Thursday produced a chargesheet against a retired police officer for mutation in the recorded date of birth in his service book to prolong his service period.

As per the Crime Branch, a case (FIR No. 06/2017 U/S 420,468,471) was filed in connection with the incident in 2017 and charge sheet was produced against retired ASI Kulwant Singh son of Arjun Singh of Fuji Pora Kh Budgam A/P House no 114 model town Digyana Jammu in the court of Passenger Tax and Electricity Srinagar.

"The accused had made insertion / mutation in his recorded date of birth in his service book to prolong his service period," the CBK said in a statement.

Bear Caught In Handwara

SRINAGAR: A bear was caught on Thursday by the officials of Wild Life Department in Kukroosa area of north Kashmir's Kupwara district.

According to the reports, early Thursday morning, the villagers in Kukroosa spotted a bear roaming in the village.

An official told news agency KDC that as soon as locals spotted the bear on Thursday morning, they informed the Wildlife department later, which later sent a team of experts and caught the bear.

A wildlife official while confirming the incident said that after putting in hectic efforts they were able to catch the wild bear.

Car-Borne Militants Kill 2 Soldiers In Srinagar



KD Photo: Abid Bhat

OBSERVER NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Unidentified car-borne militants on Thursday shot dead two soldiers of army's Quick Reaction Team (QRT) in an audacious attack in Srinagar outskirts before fleeing with a service rifle of a fallen army man.

Around 1:10 pm, a group of three militants traveling in a Maruti car fired indiscriminately at army party near Sharifabad HMT resulting in injuries to two soldiers, a police spokesperson said. He said that the injured soldiers Sepoys Ratan and Deshmukh of Territorial Army's 163 and 101 Battalions were removed to the hospital for treatment. However, both of them succumbed to their injuries.

The police spokesperson further said that the militants carried out the broad-day light attack taking

undue advantage of the crowded place. He said the army personnel exercised maximum restraint to avoid any civilian casualties and collateral damage.

Soon after the attack, reinforcements of army and special opera-

several hours, no arrests were made. Meanwhile, Police have registered a case in this regard under relevant sections of law.

"Investigation is in progress and officers continue to work to establish the full circumstances of this

Analysing CCTV Footage To Identify Attackers: IGP

SRINAGAR: Inspector General of Police Kashmir Vijay Kumar said on Thursday that the police was analysing CCTV footage of the HMT shootout to identify the attackers, who killed two soldiers in an ambush. The militants opened fire on the security forces near Sharifabad

» More On P2

tions group (SOG) of police reached the shootout spot and launched a search operation to nab the attackers, reports said. However, during the search operation that continued for

crime," the police spokesperson said. A local news agency GNS quoted sources as saying that the decamped with a service rifle of a soldier after opening fire upon them.

Cracks In PAGD Over Seat Sharing Agreement

PDP Urges Dr. Farooq To Review Decision

SRINAGAR: Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), which is a signatory to People's Alliance of Gupkar Declaration (PAGD) Thursday said that differences within the alliance may grow deeper, incase its head, Dr Farooq Abdullah does not 'review' decisions taken on 'seat sharing'.

Addressing a press conference at PDP head office, party General Secretary, Ghulam Nabi Lone Hanjura appealed PAGD president Dr Farooq Abdullah to review decisions on seat-sharing before the differences between different parties within the amalgam grow deeper.

He said National Conference (NC) has fielded its official candidates in certain areas where PDP candidates contest on PAGD ticket.

He said any party including NC, PDP, PC or ANC should immediately

withdraw candidature of their official candidates from those constituencies where PAGD candidates are contesting DDC elections.

Hanjura alleged that NC without any consultation with alliance members allotted some seats of Congress to its own candidates after the party pulled out from the PAGD. The PDP leader said the crises may grow deeper within PAGD in case the issues on seat sharing are left unresolved.

"There were already issues on seat sharing in the amalgam and I was crestfallen the moment I saw NC has fielded its candidates on 13 out of fourteen seats in Budgam constituency. This is not good for the alliance. I appeal to the alliance head to review decisions on seat sharing before the differences grow deeper," Hanjura added.

» More On P2

Amusing To See Govt Celebrate Constitution Day: Mehbooba

SRINAGAR: PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti Thursday attacked the Centre on the occasion of Constitution Day, saying she found it "amusing" to see them celebrate the day as they have already replaced the Constitution with the BJP's divisive agenda.

The former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister also said legislations like the Citizenship Amendment Act or the so-called 'love jihad law' were affront to the fundamental rights granted by the Constitution.

The country is celebrating the Constitution Day on Thursday to mark the adoption of the Constitution on this day in 1949.

Amusing to see GOI (Government of India) celebrate 'Constitution Day' since they have already replaced it with BJP's divisive agenda.

» More On P2

J&K Reports 5 More Corona Deaths, Toll 1668

SRINAGAR: At least five more people lost their lives to coronavirus in Jammu and Kashmir on Thursday, taking the total number of virus related fatalities across the Union Territory to 1668.

Among the fatalities, three were reported from Kashmir and two from the Jammu region, officials said.

The victims, officials said included a 55-year-old woman from Noorbagh Baramulla besides two persons from Srinagar—a 63-year-old man from Gojwara and a 90-year-old man from Chanapora.

Regarding deaths from Jammu division, they said, one of them was a 40-year-old woman from Bakool and a 72-year-old from Karan Nagar Jammu.

» More On P2

JCO Killed, Civilian Injured In Pak Firing

OBSERVER MONITORING DESK

SRINAGAR: A junior commissioned officer (JCO) of army on Thursday was killed and a civilian injured in firing and mortar shelling by Pakistan troops along Line of Control (LoC) in Poonch district of Jammu and Kashmir.

Around 1:30 pm Thursday, Pakistan army initiated "unprovoked ceasefire violation" by firing small arms and mortar shells along LoC in Qasba and Kirni sectors in the Poonch, officials said.

Officials said Subedar Swathantra Singh of 16 Garhwal was critically injured in Kirni Qasba sector in Pakistani firing. The 48-year-old was shifted to army hospital, where he succumbed to the injuries.

Army's Jammu based spokesman Lt Col Devinder Anand confirmed the killing of the officer in the "ceasefire violation by the Pakistan army."

"Befitting reply is being given to the violation," he added.

Earlier, a civilian identified as Mohammad Rashid, son of Najab Din was injured in the firing by Pak troops. "He was removed to the hospital for treatment," SHO Poonch, S D Singh told news agency GNS.

J&K Gears Up For First Polls Post Art- 370 Abrogation

SRINAGAR: Preparations are on in full swing for the first elections in Jammu and Kashmir post abrogation of Article 370 and reorganisation of the erstwhile state with political parties making the last last-ditch efforts to woo voters.

The first-ever district development council (DDC) polls and by-elections to local bodies in J&K ended on Thursday evening, officials said. Voting to decide the fate of 1,475 candidates in this phase would take place on Saturday from 7 am to 2 pm. Officials said campaigning took place in a peaceful manner and there was no untoward incident.

Campaigning For First Phase Ends

SRINAGAR: Campaigning for the first phase of the district development council (DDC) polls and by-elections to local bodies in J&K ended on Thursday evening, officials said.

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» More On P2

Special Booths For Migrants: SEC

JAMMU: State Election Commissioner (SEC) K K Sharma on Wednesday directed for setting up of special polling booths for Kashmiri migrants in Jammu and Udhampur so that they can effectively exercise their right to vote in the ensuing DDC elections

» More On P2

CBI Books Ex- Minister Taj Mohiuddin For 'Land Grab'

ROSHNI Land SCAM

NEW DELHI: The CBI has booked former Jammu and Kashmir Minister Taj Mohiuddin in connection with alleged illegal regularisation of encroached forest land in his name under the Roshni Act, officials said Thursday.

Along with Mohiuddin, a former Congress minister in the erstwhile state, the agency has also booked Mohammed

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Govt Releases Another List Of 2,500 Beneficiaries

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir administration has released another list of over 2,500 people, including a retired police officer, a PDP leader's son and a prominent businessman,

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SLPs Filed In SC Against Scrapping Of Roshni Act

NEW DELHI: A bunch of special leave petitions have been filed in the Supreme Court against a Jammu and Kashmir High Court order scrapping the Roshni Act that gave proprietary rights

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A snow cutting machine clearing Srinagar-Leh Highway near Sonmarg, which remained closed for the fourth straight day Thursday.

—KO Pix Abid Bhat

PDP Youth President To Be Produced Before NIA Court Today

NEW DELHI: PDP youth wing president Waheed ur Rehman Para, arrested by the National Investigation Agency for allegedly conspiring with Hizbul Mujahideen militants to get their support during the 2019 parliamentary elections, will be produced before NIA court in Jammu on November 27, officials said here on Thursday.

Para was produced in a Delhi court which gave a transit remand to produce him in Jammu, the officials said.

Para, who recently filed his nomination for District Development

Council (DDC) elections from Pulwama in South Kashmir, was arrested on Wednesday for his alleged "close links" with Irfan Shafi Mir, arrested along with Hizbul Mujahideen militant Naveed Babu and suspended Deputy Superintendent of Police Davinder Singh.

According to officials, during investigation into Singh's association with Hizbul Mujahideen militants, the NIA came across the phone records of Mir which showed that he was in close touch with Para. Mir had claimed during questioning that Para had

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Govt Extends 4G Ban In J&K Till Dec 11

SRINAGAR: The government on Thursday extended ban on high speed 3G and 4G internet services till December 11 in all but two districts of J&K, citing apprehensions regarding disruptions to "extensive campaigning by the contesting candidates" in ensuing local body polls.

"With the announcement of elections to the District Development Council constituencies and by-elections to fill the vacancies in the Panchayati Raj Institutions/Urban Local Bodies, intense political activity is being witnessed across J&K, with extensive campaigning by the contesting candidates. At the same time, there

have been continued attempts from across the border to disrupt the elections process by vitiating the security environment," reads an order issued by the Principal Secretary Home Shaleen Kabra.

"The law enforcement agencies have well founded apprehensions of enhanced efforts by Pakistan for causing public disaffection, recruitment in the (militant) ranks as well as infiltration attempts, which heavily depend upon high speed internet," reads the order.

"There has also been a surge in (militant) activities, specific instances being that at Ban Toll Plaza, Nagrota, Jammu

» More On P2