



Maximum : 12°
Minum : -2°
Humidity : 68%

SUNSET
Today 05:21 PM
SUNRISE
Tomorrow 07:22 AM

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'EMOTIONAL STABILITY PREDICTS SUCCESSFUL CAREER OUTCOMES'

A new study published in Psychological Science has found that the changes during young adulthood indicate personality...



LEADERSHIP CRISIS

A leader paves the way for a movement to be launched, sets its goals, inspires and shows the roadmap to his followers.

PS/OUTPOST ...

1 CRORE HEALTHCARE WORKERS WILL BE 1ST TO GET COVID-19 VACCINE: GOVERNMENT

COVID-19 vaccine will be first given to about one crore health workers from both the public and private sectors...



Wisdom Quote!

"It is the mark of an educated mind to be able to entertain a thought without accepting it."
— Aristotle

news DIGEST

ACB Arrests Naib Tehsildar

SRINAGAR: The Anti-Corruption Bureau officials on Friday arrested a revenue official from Srinagar for amassing huge assets disproportionate to his known sources of income.

Abdul Rashid Malla, Naib Tehsildar, Rawalpura was arrested by the ACB on Friday in a case FIR 23/2020 u/s 5(10) (e) r/w 5(2) of J&K PC Act Svt. 2006 registered against him on 17-11-2020 for acquiring huge assets disproportionate to his known sources of income, a Bureau spokesperson said.

The case, he said was registered on the basis of a verification conducted by ACB Srinagar into the allegations that Malla was in possession of huge assets in the shape of Shopping complex, palatial house etc.

50.53% Vote In Phase III: SEC

KO Photos: Abid Bhat



JAMMU: The third phase of District Development Council (DDC) elections held across 33 constituencies of Jammu and Kashmir recorded 50.53% of voter turnout, State Election Commissioner K.K. Sharma on Friday

The SEC said that a large number of people have come out to cast their votes during the third phase of DDC polls and long queues were seen right from morning despite severe cold conditions in Kashmir Division and hilly areas of Jammu Division.

"Polling has been by-and-large peaceful in the poll going 33 constituencies of DDC including 16 in Kashmir division and 17 in Jammu division," Sharma said.

He said polling was held on 2046 polling stations including 1254 from Kashmir division and 792 from Jammu division.

The SEC further informed that Jammu division recorded an average voter turnout of 68.88% with Reasi District recording the highest percentage of 75.20% followed by Rajouri district with 72.81%. The

DDC POLLS

Candidate Shot At, Injured In Kokernag

SRINAGAR: In the first attack on a District Development Council (DDC) election contestant in Jammu and Kashmir, militants shot at and injured an Apni Party candidate in Anantnag district on Friday, police said.



lowest turnout in Jammu division was in Doda district which recorded 59.51%.

"The Kashmir Division recorded an average turnout of 31.61%. Kulgam district recorded highest polling at 64.45% followed by Bandipora District at 56.73% and Budgam with 50.18% polling in the third phase of elections," Sharma said.

Giving the district wise details about the DDCs, the SEC said that in Kashmir division, the polling percentage recorded in Kupwara was 46.25%, Baramulla 30.94%, Ganderbal 24.69%, Shopian 22.68%, Anantnag 21.64%, and Pulwama 10.87%.

"Similarly, in Jammu division, poll percentage of 72.18% was recorded in Poonch, 70.44% in Jammu, 70.35% in Kishtwar, 70.15% in Samba 64.79% in Ramban and 62.18% in Kathua," he added.

Sharma further said that counting of votes for Sarpanch and Panch constituencies which went to poll in the third phase is being conducted immediately after the close of poll and results shall be declared then and there only.

Mughal Road Closed Due To Snowfall

POONCH: The Mughal road, connecting Shopian and Poonch districts, has been closed due to fresh snowfall along the thoroughfare, officials said on Friday.

DySP Traffic Rajouri-Poonch Zabir told news agency GNS that the road has been closed as it was snowing near Peer Ki Gali.

"The traffic has been closed on both sides as a precautionary measure. The road would be opened depending upon weather conditions," he said.

India, Pak Troops Trade Fire Along LoC

SRINAGAR: The Indian and Pakistani troops on Friday exchanged gunfire along the Line of Control (LoC) in Keran Sector of Kupwara district.

Pakistan on Friday initiated an unprovoked ceasefire violation along the LoC in the Keran Sector, news agency ANI reported. Pakistan violated the ceasefire by firing small arms and mortars.

The Indian Army is retaliating befittingly, the report added.

On December 1, a sub-inspector of the Border Security Force (BSF) was killed when Pakistan violated ceasefire along the LoC in Poonch district of Jammu and Kashmir.

Ambulance Turns Turtle, Two Injured

JAMMU: An ambulance carrying dead body of an 81-year-old man turned turtle in Gool area of Ramban district, resulting in injuries to two relatives of the deceased person, officials said on Friday.

"Today at about 0530 hours, an ambulance bearing no PB02Cd/9941 driven by an unknown person carrying the dead body of one Ali Mohd (81) Son of Baaja Gujjar of Deedah, who had died in Jammu turned turtle as a result of which two family members of the octogenarian were injured," reported news agency GNS.

The injured identified as Abdul Gani son of Baaja and his son Shabir Ahmed were shifted to Gool Hospital, they said.

"Driver along with his co-driver fled from the spot," said a police officer. He said a case under relevant sections of IPC has been registered at Police Station Gool. He said the dead body has been taken by his family members.

JK Heading For A Bright Future: LG

'Panchayats Have A Huge Role To Play In Developmental Process'

OBSERVER NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said on Friday that after facing a deficit of good administration for decades, Jammu and Kashmir was heading for a brighter future and the Panchayats have a huge role to play in the developmental process.

Addressing the 2nd State Conclave of Rashtriya Sarpanch Sansad, through virtual mode, Sinha as per an official spokesperson said that the 3-tier Panchayati Raj system was non-existent in J&K and with the recent developments, the government has made sure to add district-level Panchayati institutions to the village-level & block-level system.



"It is now the true form of grass-root democracy as existing in other parts of the country," LG said.

CBI Begins Probing JDA-Encroachers Nexus

NEW DELHI: Widening its probe in Roshni scam cases in Jammu and Kashmir, the CBI has registered four preliminary enquiries into the alleged non-compliance of high court directives by officials of the Jammu Development Authority (JDA) and others to "cover up" the complicity in illegal acts of encroachment of land.

The first enquiry registered by the CBI relates to matter pertaining to the encroachment on 784 kanals, 17 marla of land in Gole, tehsil Jammu which was transferred to JDA.

A preliminary enquiry (PE) is the first step initiated by the CBI to assess criminality in prima facie allegations levelled by a complainant. If the allegations appear to be serious enough, the agency proceeds with an FIR or else the PE is closed.

ROSHNI SCAM

On April 24, 2014, the Jammu and Kashmir High Court had directed the deputy commissioners of Jammu, Samba, Udhampur, Srinagar, Budgam and Pulwama districts to submit the compliance report on handing over the relevant record of the present case to the vigilance director, who was enquiring into the matter.

In spite of subsequent repeated directives of the high court, no action was initiated by the competent authorities.

"The above court proceedings establish the reluctance of these senior officers and all authorities revenues, Jammu Development Authority etc. to assist the inquiry, which reluctance in fact

tantamount to obstruction and hurdles created by these authorities to prevent disclosure of the truth, protect law breakers and facilitate misappropriation of public properties of which they were guardians.

"Such acts and omissions of these officials tantamount to complicity in the illegal acts and criminal offences. These officers in the State have flouted court orders with impunity," the high court had noted while handing over the probe to the CBI.

The second preliminary enquiry registered by the CBI pertained to alleged encroachment on 154 kanals of land and its conversion to commercial use by a businessman named Bansil Lal Gupta in collusion with unidentified JDA officials and private persons, officials said.

Govt Gears Up For Covid-19 Vaccine Rollout

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir government on Friday directed the Deputy Commissioners and the health department officials to kick off preparatory planning for the roll-out of Covid-19 vaccination and its hassle-free and time-bound delivery in the Union Territory.

The Chief Secretary, B V R Subrahmanyam on Friday chaired a marathon meeting with the officials of the Union Territory to chalk out a plan for the roll-out of Covid-19 vaccination, an official spokesperson said. He said administrative Secretaries of departments of Health & Medical Education, Housing & Urban Development, Information, Divisional Commissioners of Jammu and Kashmir, Mission Director, National Health Mission (NHM) and Deputy Commissioners of all the districts



along with concerned Chief Medical Officers (CMOs) were present at the meeting.

The meeting, he said, was informed that the Covid-19 vaccines are currently in the third phase of clinical trials and will be available for usage soon. The

meeting was also conveyed that to effectively deliver the vaccines at the grass-root level, all districts must undertake detailed micro-planning with regard to vaccination sites, cold chain storage points, and logistics requirements.

12 More Die Of Covid, 544 Fresh Cases Detected

SRINAGAR: At least twelve more people succumbed to coronavirus in Jammu and Kashmir on Friday, taking the toll due to virus related deaths in the Union Territory to 1730.

In Kashmir Valley, four more people died of Covid-19 at different hospitals, while in Jammu the deadly infection claimed eight more lives, officials said Friday. Among the victims from the Valley included a 70-year-old woman from Lal Bazar, an 84-year-old man from Sonwar, a 60-year-old man from Beerwah and an 80-year-old man from Chogul Handwara in Kupwara district.

Among others, the officials said, victims from Jammu included an 80-year-old and a 75-year-old man from Talab Tiloo.

With these deaths, the total fatality count in the Valley has reached 1119 and 611 in the Jammu region.

Srinagar district with 425 deaths tops the list followed by Jammu (312), Baramulla (163), Budgam (102), Pulwama (86), Kupwara (85), Anantnag (79), Doda (57), Bandipora (52), Kulgam (51), Udhampur (51), Rajouri (50), Ganderbal (39), Shopian (37), Kathua (39), Samba (32), Poonch (22), Ramban (20), Kishtwar (19), and Reasi (9).

PM Chairs Meet On Covid-19 Situation



NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday chaired an all-party meeting with leaders of various political outfits and top union ministers to discuss the COVID-19 pandemic situation in the country, sources said.

Floor leaders from all parties in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha have been invited to attend the virtual meeting which started around 10:30 am.

Former Kashmir Interlocutor D Sharma Dead

NEW DELHI: Former Jammu and Kashmir interlocutor and administrator of Lakshadweep Dineshwar Sharma, who earlier headed the Intelligence Bureau, died at a Chennai hospital on Friday following a severe lung disease, officials said.

Sharma, 66, was recently shifted from the national capital to a Chennai hospital for specialised treatment of the lungs where he breathed his last on Friday morning, they said.

NIA To Probe Nagrota Encounter Case

NEW DELHI: The National Investigation Agency (NIA) will probe the recent encounter at Nagrota in the Jammu region in which four militants of the Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) were killed by police, officials said on Friday.

The premier probe agency took over the case following a notification issued by the Centre. The militants were killed on November 19 in Jammu and Kashmir's Nagrota area in a swift operation by the police.

The NIA probe will try to ascertain the planning and final objective of the four JeM militants and the people with whom they were in touch with in Jammu and Kashmir.

The agency's team had visited the encounter site at Ban Toll Plaza on November 19.

The NIA is already probing an encounter that took place on January 31 this year in which three militants from the JeM were killed.

RTGS To Be Available 24x7 From Dec 14

MUMBAI: In a bid to give a push to digital payments, the Reserve Bank on Friday announced a slew of measures including enhancing the limit for contactless card transactions to Rs 5,000 and making RTGS transaction facility available round the clock from December 14.

The RBI has also decided to grant licence to entities operating payments systems on a perpetual basis, and permitted companies to reapply for licence after one year of rejection of their application or revocation of their licence.

These were part of the announcements made by RBI Governor Shaktikant Das earlier in the day after the meeting of the central bank's rate setting panel -- Monetary Policy Committee. Now the central bank has issued