



Maximum : 5.1° SUNSET Today 05:59 PM
Minimum : -5.6° SUNRISE Tomorrow 07:31 AM
Humidity : 91%

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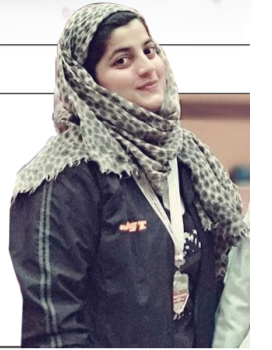


P3 NEWS SDA TO RESERVE 25% COMMERCIAL SPACE AT MECHANISED PARKING FOR WOMEN

P7 THINK MINDFUL FRIDAYS WOMEN'S MENTAL HEALTH Perpetually spoken common statement 'zou aur te jahan aur' which is in vogue in our society signifies the importance...



P11 SPORTS MEET PULWAMA WRESTLER RASHIDA SIMNANI WHO WANTS TO TEACH KASHMIR WOMEN SELF-DEFENSE



Widom Quote!

Healthy citizens are the greatest asset any country can have. - Winston S. Churchill

NEWS DIGEST

Jammu Bans Bovine Transportation

JAMMU: The district authorities here on Thursday ordered a ban on transportation of bovine animals from the winter capital city without permission over fears of disturbance of peace and tranquility.

Cops Recover Stolen Pistol, Arrest Thief

JAMMU: Police on Thursday claimed to have recovered stolen service weapon in Jammu and arrested a burglar involved in the act.

CASO Held In South Kashmir Villages

SRINAGAR: Amid severe cold, joint forces launched a cordon and search operation (CASO) in two villages in south Kashmir's Pulwama and Shopian districts, reports said Thursday.

Two Teens Injured In Scuffle, One Critical

SRINAGAR: Two teenage boys were injured during a scuffle at Malbagh Ummer Colony in Lal Bazar area of Srinagar, officials said on Thursday.

School Building Guttled In Shopian Blaze

SRINAGAR: A Government School building was gutted in a fire mishap at Amarbugh village of Imamsahib in South Kashmir's Shopian district on Thursday evening.

Intense Cold Wave Grips Kashmir Valley

Gulmarg Shivers At Minus 13.4 Degrees Celsius



KO Photo: Abid Bhat

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: The mercury plunged by several degrees across Kashmir as the valley was gripped by intense cold wave conditions on Thursday, officials said here.

low of minus 5.6 degrees Celsius, plunging more than three degrees from minus 2 degrees Celsius the previous night, the officials said.

Budget Session Set To Be Stormy

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The Budget session of Parliament beginning Friday is poised to be stormy with the Opposition set to attack the government over the three new farm legislations, amid an ongoing agitation by farmers.

The session will begin with the address of the President to the joint sitting of the two Houses on Friday morning followed by the presentation of the Union Budget on February 1.

A total of 16 Opposition parties have announced a boycott of the President's address in solidarity with the farmers protesting the new farm laws, senior Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad said on Thursday.

14-Days Old Militant Held In Bandipora: Police

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Police on Thursday claimed to have arrested a Jaish-e-Muhammad militant from Patushahi area of north Kashmir's Bandipora district.

Imtiyaz Ahmad Khan of Panzang was arrested at a checkpoint established by government forces at Patushahi following credible information about the movement of militants from Sopore to Bandipora, a police spokesperson said Thursday.

Police Issue Lookout Notices Against Farmer Leaders

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Delhi Police on Thursday issued lookout notices against farmer leaders named in an FIR in connection with the violence during the farmers' tractor parade on Republic Day and invoked sedition charges in a case of the Red Fort incident as the force intensified its investigation.

It also asked the farmer leaders to submit their response within three days, explaining why legal action should not be taken against them as they did not follow conditions set for the parade.



Sources said that around nine crack teams have been formed to locate all the culprits, even as there was no official

confirmation from the police yet. The move comes a day after Police Commissioner S N Shrivastava said

'No Arrests Will Happen, Will Hang Myself'

Bharatiya Kisan Union (BKU) spokesperson Rakesh Tikait was seen giving a fiery speech as police arrived at the Ghazipur border. "Police will be responsible if something happens here," he said.

Indo-Pak Troops Trade Fire, Teenager Hurt

Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR: A teenager on Thursday was injured as India and Pakistani troops exchanged heavy gunfire and mortar shells along the Line of Control (LoC) in Poonch district of Jammu and Kashmir.

18-year-old Ikhlag Ahmad of Shahpur village along the LoC was injured on Thursday evening after receiving splinter

injuries in Pakistani shelling, officials said. The injured teen, they said, was removed to the district hospital for treatment.

Earlier, the officials said, Pakistani troops violated ceasefire agreement and resorted to firing and mortar shelling in Shahpur sector. The Indian army, he said, were responding effectively to the unprovoked ceasefire violation by Pak troops.

Pak Officials Return Poonch Woman

A 36-year old woman, who had inadvertently crossed over to Pakistan controlled Kashmir (PcK) from Poonch, was returned by Pakistani authorities at the cross-LoC point on Thursday, officials said.

J&K Records 63 New Covid-19 Cases

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir on Thursday recorded 63 new coronavirus cases that raised its tally to 1,24,297, while one person died due to the infection in the past 24 hours, officials said.

The number of active cases in the union territory fell below the 1,000-mark for the first time in the past eight months, they said.

Of the fresh cases, 18 were reported from the

Mehbooba Alleges BJP Hand In Jan-26 Violence

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti on Thursday demanded immediate withdrawal of the three farm laws saying these were enacted without consulting farmers.

Mehbooba, who arrived in Jammu on Wednesday on a week-long tour of the region to hold threadbare discussions with senior PDP leaders on party affairs and future strategy, made these remarks at Gandhi Nagar here.

"I feel that the government should take back these laws immediately," she told reporters in reply to a question on the violence on Republic Day in New Delhi.

Colleges, Universities In Valley To Reopen From February 15

Govt Issues Covid-19 Guidelines To Resume Academic Activities

Observer News Service

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir Government on Thursday announced reopening of colleges and Universities in Jammu division from February 1 and in Kashmir Valley from February 15 while issuing a set of Covid-19 guidelines for the higher education institutions to resume academic activities.

The higher education institutions in summer zone areas of Jammu division will re-open from February 01, an official spokesperson said here Thursday, adding while as in



Kashmir Valley and winter zone areas of Jammu, the institutions will open on 15th February after winter vacations.

He said that the order issued here by the Higher Education Department has urged the institutions, staff

Vested Interests In Admin Harassing KP Employees: APMCC



Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: All Parties Migrants Coordination Committee (APMCC) on Thursday called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha here and alleged that there are vested interests in the union territory administration who are creating unnecessary hurdles in the working of migrant employees in the Valley.

It also raised with the Lt Governor other issues being faced by the Prime Minister's Package employees, including harassment, promotion, transfer and accommodation, spokesperson, APMCC, King C Bharati said.

"The Kashmiri Migrant PM Package Employees are working in Kashmir valley on a special package created exclusively for them and are



KD Sethi: 'Epitome of Brotherhood' Is No More

As a stalwart of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir, Sethi had witnessed many important political events of J&K, be it communal riots during 1947 Indo-Pak partition, Quit Kashmir movement and his trysts with powers of the day. His death was condoled widely and across the borders.

Auqib Javed

When partition was bleeding subcontinent in 1947, many Samaritans were going out of their ways to save people from the mad-frenzy of violence. Among them was a young man from Jammu.

"As a right-minded person, Krishen Dev Sethi saved lives of many Muslims and non-Muslims in Mirpur and Jammu during the 1947 bloodcurdling fall," says Mohammad Sayeed Malik, a veteran journalist.

"Sethi sahib saw the entire madness unfolding in front of his eyes and

tried his best to play a fireman among arsonists."

Sethi breathed his last after prolonged illness on January 28, at his home in Jammu's Mohalla Dulpatian at the ripe age of 93.

Born in 1927, at Mirpur, now part of Pakistan-administered Kashmir, Sethi started his political career before 1947. As a 15-year-old political activist, he fought feudalism, landlordism, money-lenders and repression by both British and autocratic rulers of Kashmir.

He eventually became a member of the first constituent assembly in 1951 and a member of the first legislative

assembly in 1957. Sethi represented Nowshera assembly constituency twice as MLA.

"Despite our ideological differences we shared a very close bond as friends. He was the man who had deep respect for any human irrespective of caste, religion, race and creed," Malik told Kashmir Observer.

As an active participant in the "Quit Kashmir Movement", Sethi faced two-year imprisonment during Bakshi Gulam Mohammad's regime. He remained underground for eight years during the 1960s for propagating peace with China.

"Sethi was a politician of higher stature and played a key role in formation of J&K's own constitution," Malik said. "He was the face of the National Conference in Mirpur and Jammu."

Despite Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah appointing him provincial general secretary of his party, Sethi openly criticised the populist leader's policies.

In 1953—the year Abdullah was arrested in "Kashmir Conspiracy Case"—Sethi joined ultra-left politics and formed Democratic National Conference. His outfit was joined by NC deserters like Gulam Mohammed Sadiq, Mir Qasim, and DP Dhar.