

SUNSET Today 06:03 PM SUNRISE Maximum: 8.9º Minmum : -3.1º Tommrow 07:28 AM Humidity: 96%



Snowfall Breaks

Raises Night Temperature In Kashmir

Cold Wave

Press Trust Of India

ditions on Monday as

the minimum tempera-

tures across the Valley

rose by several degrees

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P4 WORLD

MYANMAR'S TAINTED TORCH BEARER FOR DEMOCRACY DETAINED

US President Joe Biden's national security adviser,



NECESSITIES LIKE SCHOOLS, HOSPITALS ETC SHOULDN'T BE VULNERABLE TO PROFIT MAKING

There's a rapid trend of advertisements and corner. All is well until one.



P11 SPORTS **SPORTS CHAMPIONSHIP**

The 7th National Icestock Sports Championship



C Quote

Youth is easily deceived because it is quick to hope.

Aristotle

NEWS DIGIST

VDC Member Held For Shooting Father

JAMMU: A village defence committee (VDC) member allegedly shot at his father in Kathua district of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said Balkar Singh opened fire from his 303 rifle on his father, Krishan Singh, after an altercation between them over some domestic issue at village Dasanu in Dingaamb area of Hiranagar sector, they said, Krishan (78) was seriously injured in the incident, officials said. → More On P10

Army Rescues British Citizen In Gulmarg

SRINAGAR: Army on Monday claimed to have rescued a British national from Apharwat slopes in the tourist resort of Gulmarg. In a statement issued here, an army spokesperson said that British national Lachlan Stewart, who was on a ski trip to Gulmarg, lost his track while skiing at Apharwat on January 31. After struggling for two hours in heavy snow, Stewart, the army statement said, >> More On P10

Forest Fire Rages Along LoC

POONCH: A massive fire broke out on Monday in the forest area along the Line of Control (LoC) in Mendhar area of Poonch district of Jammu and Kashmir, but there were no casualties. Official sources said that smoke filled the air after the forest area caught fire. They said that it seems fire erupted on the side of Pakistan and later spread to the Indian part. Sources added that there were no reports >> More On P10

Car Rolls Into Ravine, 2 Dead

SRINAGAR: Two people, including a young woman on Monday were killed in a road accident in north Kashmir's Kupwara district. An Alto car (HR51-7420) carrying five people skidded off a bridge and fell into a ravine in Kralgund area of Kupwara around 7:10 am on Monday, reports said. Army and locals, the report said, immediately swung into action and started → More On P10

Jackal Injures Three In Handwara

SRINAGAR: A jackal entered a residential house in north Kashmir's Handwara on Monday and injured at least three inmates before the beast fled away. Abdul Majeed Wani, his son Umar Majeed and daughter Najma Bano were attacked and injured by the jackal at their home in Haril area of Langate on Monday afternoon, → More On P10

AGAIN IN COUP

Jake Sullivan, says dealing with China, Afghanistan

COMMERCIALISATION

and banners being raised at every nook



J&K WINS NATIONAL ICESTOCK 2020-21 AT GULMARG

2020-21 concluded here at Ice Rink, Gulmarg..



BUDGET **2021-2022**

Centre Allocates Rs 30,757 Cr For J&K



KO Web Desk

NEW DELHI: The Centre on Monday allocated Rs 30,757 crore for Jammu and Kashmir in the Budget for 2021-22 presented by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.

According to the budget, Rs 30,757 crore has been → More On P10

Healthcare Spending Hiked

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Following are the highlights of the 2021-22 Budget presented by Finance

Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in Parliament on Monday: Fiscal position and health outlay: Spending on healthcare hiked by 137 per cent >> More On P10

Gas Pipeline Project For J&K Announced

KOWeb Desk

inance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday said that a gas pipeline project will be taken up in Jammu and Kashmir. "An independent Gas Transport System Operator will be set up for facilitation and coordination of booking of common carrier >> More On P10

J&K Trade Bodies 'Unhappy'

Agencies

he traders in Jammu and Kashmir Monday took a dig at the union government, stating that there was no mention of the business community and the much-needed upgradation of the Srinagar-Jammu national highway, → More On P10

AC And Refrigerator To Be Costlier; **Gold And Silver** To Be Cheaper

PressTrust Of India

monly used items. including refrigerators, air conditioners, LED lights and mobile phones, will become more expensive due to hike in customs duty on imported parts, as proposed by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in the Union Budget for 2021-22. However, gold and silver will become cheaper as a result of rationalisation in customs duty on imports of these precious metals Following is a list of imported items that will become costlier:

large number of com-

- · Compressors for refrigerators and air conditioners
- · LED lamps, parts and spares such as printed circuit board, Raw silk and cotton
- Solar invertors and lanterns Automobile parts such

Mobile phone parts like PCBA,

camera >> More On P10

as safety and toughened glasses, windscreen wipers, signalling equipment

SRINAGAR: Residents Srinagar, officials said. A thin layer of snow of Kashmir got a major respite from the on city roads, caused inintense cold wave con-

convenience to the motorists due to the snowfall since Sunday night. Authorities had to resort to >> More On P10

amid fresh snowfall in

many areas, including

Landslide Halts Highway Traffic

he authorities on Monday briefly movement of traffic on Srinagar-Jammu highway on Monday was briefly stopped after a landslide hit the road in Banihal. Traffic was first halted on Srinagar-Jammu for a few hours after landslides blocked the road at Shahbanbas in Banihal, officials said. >> More On P10

No Let Up In Cross-LoC Firing

Raiouri Blast field and it exploded when he threw it on >> More On P10

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: For the consecutive day Monday, India and Pakistani troops traded gunfire and mortar shells along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district.

Pakistan army on Monday violated the ceasefire and shelled forward posts along the LoC in Poonch district, officials said. The Indian Army retaliate

befittingly to the Pakistani

aggression, they said.
"At about 1745 hours today,

Pakistan army initiated unprovoked ceasefire violation by firing with small arms and intense shelling with mortars along the LoC in Mankote sector, Poonch,' a defence spokesman said.

On Thursday, a 20-year-old man was injured in Pakistani shelling along the LoC in Shahpur sector of Poonch. Jammu and Kashmir

hree members of a family were injured in a blast

in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district, officials

said on Monday. A boy picked up an object from a

5,400 instances >> More On P10

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The district authorities on Monday confirmed first cases of avian influenza from the samples taken from dead crows at the two different places in this summer capital.

Samples from dead crows lifted near the Delhi Public School at Athwaian and the Flood Spill Channel at Peerbagh have tested positive for avian influenza – H5N8 strain - as per a report received from the ICAR-NISHAD Bhopal.

"Now in accordance with

Bird Flu Cases Confirmed In Srinagar the stipulated guidelines a 10-kilometer radius area around each of the said locations has been declared as alert zone – where among other measures surveillance

pling will be

ducted to as-

and prevent spread," the certain t h e report Earlier, authorities had confirmed Avian

and sam-

con-

Flu (Bird Flu) among the crows migratory birds in the Valley on 23th of December in Anantnag, Pulwama, Kulgam and Budgam tricts Kashmir. The Bird Flu cases were confirmed days after the ban on import of poultry was lifted in the Union

Acting swiftly, Government has directed for surveillance within one km radius where the cases were reported and asked for samples from Poultry farms also, they said. Meanwhile Deputy

Commissioner Srinagar, Dr Shahid Iqbal → More On P10

No Covid-19 Death In J&K, 44 New Cases

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: Jammu Kashmir on Monday recorded 44 fresh coronavirus cases, raising its tally to 1,24,550, while no death due to the infection took place in the past 24 hours, officials said.

Of the fresh cases, eight were reported from the Jammu division and 36 from the Kashmir division of the union territory, they said.

The officials said Srinagar district recorded the highest of 15 cases, including seven travellers. Except for Jammu (seven) and Ramban (one) >> More On P10

Schools Reopen After 10 Months In Jammu

Press Trust Of India

3 Of Family

Injured In

JAMMU: Government and private schools reopened for Classes 9 and 12 on Monday in the summer zone of the Jammu region amid strict COVID-19 protocol, over 10 months after remaining closed due to the coronavirus pandemic.

The Jammu and Kashmir administration had on Friday last ordered the reopening of all government and recognised private schools for senior classes in the summer zone of the Jammu division from February 1. >> More On P10

PAHALGAM LAND USE CHANGE

High Court Seeks 'Outcome' Of FIR Filed In 2008

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir High Court on Monday directed government to file status of the investigation into an FIR registered more than 12 years ago against officers and officials allegedly involved in giving undue benefit to beneficiaries by making "mischievous reports" regarding change of land use under erstwhile Master Plan, Pahalgam.

The FIR no.(27/2008) was filed under Section 5(1)(d) read with Section 5(2) of the J&K Prevention Corruption Act, Samvat, 2006, and Section → More On P10

ON THE EVE OF DAY **4[™] FEBRUARY**

Amid 'Lone' Exit And 'Group' Entry, Will PAGD Survive?

Auqib Javeed

Then reports came from Delhi that Omar Abdullah has sent his emissaries to North Block for "doing business together", National Conference distanced itself from their vice president's week-long capital engagement.

The denial, however, is being termed as an attempt to cover up some covert parleys by some miffed members of Peoples' Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD), an amalgam of Jammu and Kashmir's unionist parties demanding restoration of Article 370. "Alliance partners are suspi-

cious of some activities of former chief minister Omar Abdullah, who seems to be only working on strengthening the party at ground level," a PAGD leader said.

Even Omar left nothing unsaid about his motives when he addressed party workers at



Nawa-e-Subha soon after the District Development Council (DDC) results. (The six parties in the PAGD had recently fought DDC polls together—"to keep the BJP away"—and swept ballot even in

the BJP constituencies of Jammu.) "These elections are not the success of Dr Farooq, Omar, Sagar or any other NC leader, but it's the victory of our ground level worker," Omar addressed his party convention.

Some reports even suggest that Omar has asked his father Dr. Farooq Abdullah to concentrate more on the party at the ground "Since the day the property of

Dr Farooq Abdullah was attached,

he has been conspicuous for his silence," said Majid Hyderi, a scribe-panelist.

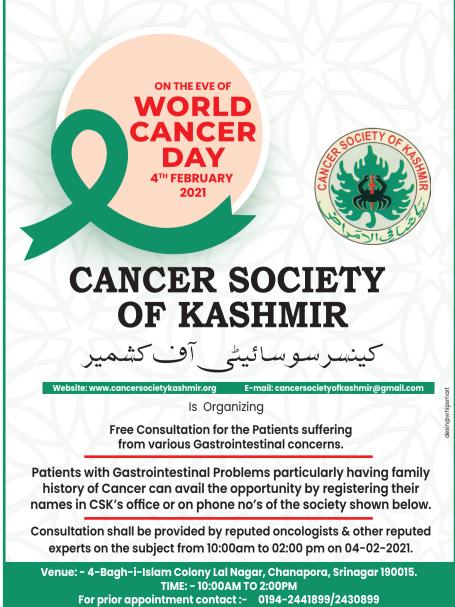
"Even Abdullah's son has gone so soft towards the rightwing government that he now openly defends

While Omar is reportedly trying to break ice with Delhi, Sajjad Lone deserted the PAGD.

Lone wrote to the alliance chairperson, Dr. Farooq Abdullah, saying that his outfit decided to part ways over the issue of fielding proxy candidates by constituent parties against the officially mandated candidates of the alliance during DDC elections.

"There is no substance in the claims of Sajad Lone and others,' Justice (Retd) Hasnain Masoodi, the alliance coordinator, told Kashmir Observer.

"Our party only contested in less than 50 per cent seats in Kashmir because everyone was accommodated." >> More On P10



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