



Maximum : 3.4°
Minimum : 0.4°
Humidity : 97%

SUNSET Today 06:06 PM
SUNRISE Tomorrow 07:25 AM



P3 NEWS COOKING GAS REFILL RATES CHANGED FROM 4 FEBRUARY, 2021

The Legal Metrology Department (LMD) today issued renewed rate of refill LPG cylinders (Domestic type 14.2kg) with effect from 4th February, 2021 for

P5 THINK WINTER DEPRESSION OR SEASONAL AFFECTIVE DISORDER

When the long dark days of winter approach, do you feel slowed down? Does it feel more difficult to ...



P7 STATE DEO ANANTNAG ORDERS RECOUNT ON PDP'S LARNOO SEAT

The District Election Officer (DEO) Anantnag on Thursday ordered recount of the votes in Larnoo DDC seat on which PDP candidate was earlier...



Quote!

Coincidence is the mother of superstition
— Zen Lounge

DIGEST

KU To Resume Online Classes From Feb 8

SRINAGAR: The Kashmir University has decided to continue online teaching mode for all the semesters except last semester/final year students from 8th February 2021. The university on recommendation of its constituent committee has decided to hold offline classes only for last semester students from 15th February as such the students shall be allowed physically to the university and its satellite campuses. Earlier the university had constituted a committee to decide on whether to start offline classes or not. The notification [More On P6](#)

Four Gamblers Held In Ganderbal: Police

SRINAGAR: Police on Thursday claimed to have arrested four gamblers in a raid in Shuhama area of Ganderbal district. Acting on an input, a team from police post Nagbal carried out a raid in Shuhama and apprehended four gamblers from the spot, a police spokesperson said. He said besides playing cards, an amount of Rs 29,500 was also seized from their possession. The police identified the accused as Khazir Mohammad Rather, Farooq Ahmad Sheikh, Imtiyaz Ahmad Sheikh and Gulam Mohammad Wani, all residents of Shuhama. They have been [More On P6](#)

Sumbal Shuts Down Against Power Outage

SRINAGAR: A complete shutdown was observed in Sumbal town of north Kashmir's Baniptora district against Power Development Department's alleged inability to supply electricity in the area as per schedule. The shutdown was observed on the call given by Traders Federation Sumbal news agency KNT reported. The town has witnessed multiple protest demonstrations against PDD over the erratic power supply. The report said that all shops and other business establishments remained closed against unscheduled [More On P6](#)

Chadoora Youth Dies Of Heart Attack

SRINAGAR: A youth from Chadoora area of central Kashmir's Budgam district died of a heart attack in Jammu, reports said Thursday. Umar Sidiq, a resident of Buchroo area of Chadoora suddenly fell unconscious near Irrigation Department office at Canal Road on Wednesday evening, news agency KNO reported. He was declared dead on arrival by the doctors at GMC Jammu. The deceased was preparing for SSB exams in Jammu. Locals, however, suspect a "pre-planned murder" as the deceased's face had bruised marks on his face. The locals demanded [More On P6](#)

Dry Weather Across Kashmir For One Week: MeT

Some Respite From Cold As Night Temperature Rises

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: The weather department Thursday forecast dry weather conditions across Kashmir for the next one week, as the minimum temperature in Srinagar settled above the freezing point for the first time in over a month as the mercury rose at most places in the Valley on Thursday, providing relief to the residents, even as the valley experienced fresh snowfall, officials said.



File Photo: Abid Bhat

Srinagar city -- the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir -- recorded a low of 0.4 degrees Celsius last night, up from the previous

night's minus 0.4 degrees Celsius, the officials said. They said it was for the first time in 37 days that the night temperature in the city settled

above the freezing point. The city had recorded zero degrees Celsius on December 29 last year and since then it [More On P6](#)

Air Traffic Disrupted For Second Day

Press Trust Of India

The air traffic to and from Kashmir was restored on Thursday hours after the flight operations were affected in the morning due to bad weather as most parts of the valley received [More On P6](#)

Highway To Remain Closed Today

The 270-km long Srinagar-Jammu highway will remain closed for vehicular traffic on Friday for maintenance and repair work, officials said Thursday. In a statement issued, traffic police said that on Friday no vehicular movement shall be allowed from [More On P6](#)

8 J&K Residents Languishing In Foreign Jails: MEA

Agencies

SRINAGAR: At least eight persons from Jammu and Kashmir are languishing in jails in foreign countries, Parliament was informed on Thursday. Among them, two are in Pakistan, two in Bangladesh and three each in Lebanon, Portugal and Cambodia, minister of state, External Affairs, V.

Muraleedharan said in a written reply in Rajya Sabha while responding to a query member Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha who had sought details of Indian nationals lodged in foreign prisons, domicile-wise, sex-wise and offence-wise. The eight persons from Jammu and Kashmir are among 7139 Indian prisoners including under-trials in the foreign jails, the MoS said. [More On P6](#)

Authorities Complete Probe Into 'Custodial Death' Of Sopore Youth

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: Authorities in Baramulla district of Jammu and Kashmir have completed an inquiry into the alleged custodial killing of a man in Sopore area in September last year, officials said on Thursday.

The inquiry into the death of Irfan Ahmad Dar (23) was ordered in the wake of protests in north Kashmir's Sopore town after the man allegedly died in police custody on the intervening

night of September 15-16. "The inquiry has been completed," inquiry officer and additional district magistrate Baramulla, Mohammad Ahsan Mir, told PTI. He said the report will be submitted to deputy commissioner Baramulla who had ordered the inquiry.

Protests had erupted in north Kashmir's Sopore town after Dar allegedly died in police custody.

While the police said Dar escaped from custody [More On P6](#)

NARCO-MILITANCY CASE

NIA Conducts Searches In Punjab

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The NIA on Thursday conducted searches in Punjab's Amritsar and Gurdaspur in connection with a narco-militancy case of Pakistan-based Hizbul Mujahideen and recovered Rs 20 lakh and 130 bullets from a Hawala operator, an official said.

The searches were conducted at the premises of suspect Manpreet Singh of Amritsar, a close associate of charge-sheeted accused Ranjit Singh in connection with the investigation of Hizbul Mujahideen (HM) narco-militancy case, an [More On P6](#)

J&K HC Stays Circular On New Stamp Duty

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir High Court has stayed a government circular issued by the Inspector General of Registration, J&K regarding stamp duty on 30 December last year.



The Circular requires all Registrars and Sub-Registrars to charge stamp duty as per new rates

with effect from 1 January 2021 irrespective of the date of uploading of documents onto the National Generic Document Registration System (NGDRS), date of filing of the documents with the Registrars/Sub-Registrars. "In the meantime, the impugned circular issued by the Inspector General of Registration, J&K, Jammu is [More On P6](#)

Courts To Resume Hearing From Feb 8

The chief justice of Jammu and Kashmir High Court Thursday amended the earlier notification and gave nod to the physical hearing of cases in all district, subordinate and the tribunal courts in J&K and Ladakh UT's from February 8. According to an order issued by Pankaj Mithal keeping in view the latest SOPs of the Government of India, the physical hearing of the cases [More On P6](#)

IN THE MEANTIME, THE IMPUGNED circular issued by the Inspector General of Registration, J&K, Jammu is stayed.

FARMERS' PROTEST TOOLKIT

Delhi Police Files FIR, Suspects Khalistan Link



Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The Delhi Police on Thursday said it has registered an FIR against unnamed persons in connection with the "toolkit", which was shared by teen climate activist Greta Thunberg and others on Twitter, with a top official saying that the initial probe has suggested the document's link with a pro-Khalistan group. He said Laxman was critically injured in the firing and later succumbed to his injuries. [More On P6](#)

the Delhi Police said nobody has been named in the case. Delhi Police's remarks come in the backdrop of global celebrities such as singer Rihanna and Thunberg supporting the farmers' protests against the three farm laws. Lending her support to the farmers' agitation, the teen activist had shared "a toolkit for those who want to help". "Here's a toolkit if you want to help," tweeted Thunberg, which takes the user to a document containing details [More On P6](#)

Logjam In Lok Sabha

New Delhi: Lok Sabha proceedings were disrupted for the third consecutive day on Thursday as protests by Opposition members demanding a separate discussion on the three contentious farm laws created uproar, leading to repeated adjournments of the House. As the House assembled after the third adjournment at 7 PM, the opposition members shouted slogans against the agri laws. Rajendra Agrawal, who was in the chair, appealed to the members to go back to their seats so that the House can function normally. However, the House was [More On P6](#)

'Stars' Face Flak Over 'Identical' Tweets

Mumbai: A section of Bollywood celebrities on Thursday criticised big stars such as Akshay Kumar and Ajay Devgn for their similarly worded tweets in response to pop star Rihanna's post drawing attention to the farmers' agitation in India. Actor Taapsee Pannu, filmmaker Onir, actor Arjun Mathur and others criticised the show of solidarity by the big stars towards the government. Rihanna, the fourth most followed celebrity on Twitter with over 100 million followers, on Tuesday [More On P6](#)

J&K CIVIL SERVICES CADRE MERGER

Merger To Overcome Shortage Of AIS Officers: GOI

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The Government of India on Thursday cited dearth of All India Service (AIS) in Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory as the reason for merging J&K cadre of IAS, IPS and Indian Forest Service (IFoS) with the Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Mizoram, Union Territory (AGMUT) cadre.

According to the statement of objects and reasons of "The Jammu & Kashmir Reorganisation (amendment) Bill-2021" moved in Rajya Sabha on Thursday, the merger of J&K cadre with

AGMUT happened due to severe shortage of All India Service officers in the UT.

The merger will facilitate posting of officers of AGMUT cadre in J&K to overcome deficiency of AIS officers to some extent, it further states.

"There is a huge deficiency of the officers of All India Services in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir. The developmental schemes, centrally sponsored schemes and other allied activities suffer due to non-availability of All India Officers in the existing cadres of the Jammu and Kashmir [More On P6](#)

He was asked to comment on Bajwa's remarks. "The onus is on Pakistan for creating such an environment," Srivastava said. In an address at the graduation ceremony of Pakistan Air Force cadets, Gen Bajwa on Tuesday said Pakistan was firmly committed to the ideal of mutual respect and peaceful co-existence. "It is time to extend a hand of peace in all directions," he said in comments largely seen as a message to India. The ties between India and Pakistan came [More On P6](#)

LG Says Vision To Transform Jammu, Srinagar Into Vibrant Cities

Observer News Service

JAMMU: Asserting that the vision of smart city projects was to transform Jammu and Srinagar into modern, sustainable and economically vibrant cities, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Thursday passed specific directions for completion of the ambitious projects within timelines without any delay. "The vision behind the ambitious projects is to transform Jammu & Srinagar into modern, sustainable



and economically vibrant cities with dedicated focus on improving infrastructure & services, increasing mobility and enhancing the administrative efficiency," Sinha said on Thursday.

He made these remarks while chairing a high level meeting of Administrative Secretaries, experts on Smart City Projects and other stakeholders here at Civil Secretariat. [More On P6](#)

WRONG DEPICTION OF J&K, LADAKH

W.H.O Put Out Disclaimer Over Incorrect Indian Map: MEA

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The government on Thursday said the issue of "wrong depiction" of India's map on the website of the World Health Organisation (WHO) was raised strongly with the global body following which it put a disclaimer on the portal.

Minister of State for External Affairs V Muraleedharan provided the information in Rajya Sabha in response to a question on whether the map on the website

depicted the union territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh in a totally different colour.

"The issue of wrong depiction of the map of India on the WHO website has been raised strongly with WHO including at the highest level," he said in his written reply.

"In response, the WHO has informed the Permanent Mission of India in Geneva that they have put a disclaimer on the portal," he added. Muraleedharan [More On P6](#)

Onus On Pakistan To Create Environment For Talks: India

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: India on Thursday said the onus is on Pakistan to create an environment free of "terror and hostility", days after Pakistan Army chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa's comments that it is time to extend a "hand of peace in all directions". "Our position is well-known. India desires normal neighbourly relations with Pakistan in an environment free of terror, hostility and violence," external affairs ministry spokesperson Anurag Srivastava said.

He was asked to comment on Bajwa's remarks. "The onus is on Pakistan for creating such an environment," Srivastava said. In an address at the graduation ceremony of Pakistan Air Force cadets, Gen Bajwa on Tuesday said Pakistan was firmly committed to the ideal of mutual respect and peaceful co-existence. "It is time to extend a hand of peace in all directions," he said in comments largely seen as a message to India. The ties between India and Pakistan came [More On P6](#)