

# KASHMIR OBSERVER

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P3 NEWS

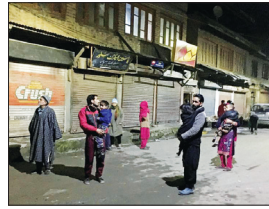
## ANANTNAG FAMILY PROTESTS IN SRINAGAR, PLEAD INNOCENCE OF THEIR SON

Family members and relatives of Zahoor Ahmad Rather from Dooru area of Anantnag on....

THINK

## THE EARTHQUAKE DID NOT STRIKE INDIA BUT TAJIKISTAN

The moment magnitude (Mw) 5.9 earthquake occurred in the Tajikistan region, it ruptured a deeper portion of the lithosphere at 92km....



P11 SPORTS

## PAKISTAN PM IMRAN KHAN SAYS INDIA IS WORLD'S TOP CRICKET TEAM BECAUSE OF BETTER STRUCTURE

Pakistan Prime Minister and former captain Imran Khan believes India is becoming a top team in the....



## Quote!

Life isn't about finding yourself. Life is about creating yourself.

— George Bernard Shaw

## NEWS DIGEST

### J&K Reports 64 New Corona Cases

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir reported on Monday 64 fresh cases of coronavirus, taking the total number of people infected by virus across the Union Territory to 125405. While Kashmir Valley reported 53 new cases of virus, the remaining eleven were confirmed by the officials from Jammu division. Giving district wise details, officials said Srinagar reported 35, Baramulla 3, Budgam 3, Pulwama 5, Anantnag 1, Bandipora 1, Kulgam 2, Shopian 3, Jammu 8, Udhampur 3 new cases of Covid-19. | Full Story on Page 5

### Court Rejects

#### Scamster's Bail Plea

SRINAGAR: The anti-corruption court on Monday rejected the bail application of a West Bengal resident arrested in connection with the Rs 1.34 crore scholarship scam. The court of Anti Corruption Judge Srinagar rejected the bail petition of Selem Sheikh of Malda, West Bengal who is in custody of the Crime Branch since his arrest in January last month, an official spokesperson said Monday. The accused, he said, is involved in uploading fake application forms on National Scholarship Portal for Merit Cum Means Scholarship under Minority. > More On P10

### Couple Injured In Leopard Attack

SRINAGAR: A man and his wife were attacked and injured on Monday by a leopard in Handwara area of Kupwara district. A leopard appeared in Waderbala of Zachaldara and attacked and injured the couple before fleeing from the village, reports said Monday. The injured couple identified as Abdul Rashid Mir and his wife Raja Begum were shifted to district hospital Handwara for treatment. The leopard attack on the couple triggered panic in the village and prompted the locals to stay indoors for a while. > More On P10

### 'Poacher' Arrested In Ganderbal

SRINAGAR: A joint team of the Forest Protection Force and the Wildlife Department on Monday arrested an alleged poacher in central Kashmir's Ganderbal district. Javid Ahmed Malla was arrested after the joint team found him shooting migratory birds in Fatehpura Check area of the district, an official said. A gun with five cartridges, one knife and a duck whistle were recovered from his possession. The operation was carried out by Forest Protection Force K-01 Flying Squad Srinagar and Wildlife Wetlands Division. > More On P10

## Restore Art-370, Statehood To J&K: Farooq Tells GoI

Agencies

SRINAGAR: National Conference president and Member Parliament Farooq Abdullah Monday said Centre should restore Article 370, and statehood to Jammu and Kashmir which were protecting rights of people. "We are seeking restoration of Article 370 and statehood to Jammu and Kashmir, which were protecting rights of people here. The August 5, 2019 decision has impacted all regions of J&K. It was because of Article 370 that farmers were not committing suicide here because these laws were protecting them," Abdullah told reporters here. "These laws (Article 370, 35-A) were not for Farooq but for every citizen of Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh." Reacting to Union Home Minister Amit Shah's claims that > More On P10

# 'Thrilled To Be Back': Campus Deadlock Ends In Kashmir

Malik Huda

SRINAGAR: Afzaa Gojwari, 20, was getting impatient for her campus visit since Monday morning itself.

She had a quick breakfast, slung her bagful of books on her shoulders and headed to her college on MA Road, Srinagar quite early and eagerly.

Her outing was the much-awaited moment for the 'good old' traditional learning for her and clearly, a desperate break from the successive lockdowns and exhausted online classes for her tribe.

The sophomore felt a new lease of life after re-sharing freshly-mopped benches with her cheerful classmates.

"It has been one freaking time away from my classroom,"



KO Photo: Abid Bhat

Afzaa told Kashmir Observer inside her campus.

"There's no substitution for offline classes. No matter how hard a person pays attention in

online classes, the essence of class is lost."

Like others, she mostly spoke her heart out to her classmates and talked about the things

## Parents Fume As Private Schools Stop Bus Service

## RS Without J&K Representation

Agencies

SRINAGAR: With Ghulam Nabi Azad and Nazir Ahmad Laway completing their terms as Rajya Sabha members on Monday, Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory doesn't now have any representatives in the Upper House of Parliament.

While Fayaz Ahmad Mir(PDP)and Shamsheer Singh Manhas(BJP) ceased to be members of the House on February 10, Azad and Laway completed their six-year terms as RS members today. > More On P10

## Shangus Locals Oppose CRPF Move To 'Occupy Land'

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The locals from south Kashmir's Anantnag district on Monday accused paramilitary CRPF of trying to forcibly occupy a huge chunk of grazing land to establish a camp.

Locals from Bran village of Shangus Tehsil of Southern Anantnag district assembled here in Press Enclave Srinagar on Monday and staged a protest against what they alleged 'land grabbing' by the CRPF.

The protesters said that



without any consultation and taking locals into confidence, CRPF has initiated a process to occupy land comprising 100 kanals. "It will prove > More On P10

## Guns Roar Along LoC In Kupwara

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Pakistan resorted to unprovoked firing at Indian positions on the Line of Control (LoC) on Monday in Tangdhar sector of Jammu and Kashmir's Kupwara district. Defence sources said Pakistan army initiated ceasefire violation on the LoC in the Tangdhar sector on Monday afternoon by using small arms and automatics.

"Indian army retaliates befittingly", sources said.

Till last reports came in, intermittent firing > More On P10

## KPs Resettlement In Valley A Political Issue: Panun Kashmir



Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: The central government does not have a clear road map for the resettlement of displaced Kashmiri Pandits in the Kashmir Valley, their homeland, an organisation representing the

community claimed on Monday.

Kashmiri Pandits left from Kashmir to Jammu and to other parts of the country in the early 90s after the outbreak of militancy in Jammu and Kashmir.

The government needs to sit with the > More On P10

## Sunshine Turns Weather Pleasant In Kashmir

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: The minimum temperature across the Valley settled below the freezing point on Monday even though the mercury went up a bit at a few places in the region, officials said.

Summer capital Srinagar recorded a low of minus 0.3 degrees Celsius Sunday night, slightly up from the previous night's minus 0.4 degrees Celsius, they said.

Qazigund recorded a minimum of minus 2.8 degrees Celsius, up from the previous night's minus 3.2 degree Celsius, the officials said.

Pahalgam tourist resort in south Kashmir, recorded a low of minus 4.3 degrees > More On P10

## 5 Of A Family Killed In Doda Accident



Agencies

SRINAGAR: Five members of a family were killed while a minor girl escaped miraculously after a vehicle they were travelling in met with an accident at Ragi Nallah in Doda district of Jammu division.

Officials said that an accident took place when a vehicle (Ecco) plying on Doda-Batote stretch of Chenab Valley plunged into a roadside gorge at Ragi Nallah near Assar in Doda district.

They said the driver has lost control over the vehicle and fell into a deep gorge, resulting in on spot death

of five members of a family.

Officials identified the deceased as Bhaag Devi, wife of Girdhari Lal, Rakesh Kumar, son of Datta Ram, Ajit Singh, son of Dhyani Singh, his wife Chander Rekha and son Ishan Singh.

Police said that during initial investigation, it came to the fore that a total of six persons were travelling in the vehicle and five bodies were found lying at the gorge.

"We launched a rescue operation at the accident site during which three-year-old Anaya, daughter of deceased Ajit Singh was found lying nearby who escaped miraculously > More On P10

## J&K Govt Warns Employees Over Unapproved Foreign Trips

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: Taking serious note of its employees visiting foreign countries in private capacity without prior permission, the Jammu and Kashmir administration has directed them to follow the rules strictly and threatened to take action against violators.

In an order, the General Administration Department (GAD) said the procedure for granting permission in favour of government employees for private visits to foreign countries has been prescribed clearly by the administration.

"It has been provided that the station permission for proceeding > More On P10



## ALLIANCE OF PRIVATE SCHOOL EDUCATION

### PRESS RELEASE

We, The Alliance of Private Schools reiterate that we at no cost want the students of our institutions to suffer any further. Past two years the students have been away from schools which has hampered their overall growth and we would leave no stone unturned to get them back to school.

We want to reassure the parents that our school buses will be operational on the routes already intimated to them from 1st March 2021. Although all the private schools are undergoing a lot of financial stress due to the current scenario, for which we request the government to take a realistic approach towards resolving the issue. Nevertheless, we stand committed towards our mission, goal and our responsibility for our students. We request management of all private schools and the government to work in collaboration to find a solution which will be conducive in smooth functioning of all the private schools.

Members of Alliance of Private School Education.

**For any queries or coordination kindly feel free to contact**  
**Publicity Secretary-9796167774**  
**Publicity Secretary- 9797792782**

**Address: Karanagar Srinagar, J&K**  
**Contact Number: +91 9906541351 | +91 8491940184**



additional advocate general B A Dar to ensure the appearance of the Advocate general on the next date of hearing, on March 5.

The court has directed the member State Legal Service Authority (SLSA) and Ladakh Legal Service Authority to update compliance reports regarding

the legal aid to the PSA detainees.

In a Public Interest Litigation petition filed last year, Advocate Syed Tassaduq Hussain has raised the issue of legal aid and according to him the state is bound to provide it to a detainee booked under PSA.

"Where the state > More On P10

## HC To Decide Maintainability Of PIL On Legal Aid To PSA Detainee

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir High Court on Monday said that it will decide next month sans any adjournment issue regarding maintainability of a Public Interest Litigation as regards legal aid to a detainee booked under Public Safety Act.

"Issue regarding the maintainability of the petition is to be gone into as per the earlier orders passed by this Court but because of the non-availability of Advocate General could not be considered," a bench of Justices Ali Mohammad Magrey and Vinod Chatterji Koul said.

The court asked the senior