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P3 NEWS

RS 500 CRORE TO BE SPENT ON REPLACING BARBED WIRES; WOODEN POLES IN JAMMU

The government today decided to replace all the wooden poles and barbed wire in Jammu...



GOOD RIDDANCE TONGAS!

The recent significant decision taken by the Sopore administration regarding the banning of tongas from plying on the streets of Sopore town can be termed as a better-latethan-never decision. The decision..



P7 NEWS

DISENGAGEMENT PROCESS GOING ON IN PANGONG TSO AREAS AS PER PLAN: SOURCES

The Chinese and Indian armies continued with the disengagement process in the...



🚅 Quote 🛚

To hide feelings when you are near crying is the secret of dignity.

Dejan Stojanovic



NEWS DIGEST

J&K Logs 58 More Covid-19 Cases

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir reported on Tuesday 58 new cases of coronavirus, including 20 travelers thus taking the total number of people infected by the virus in the Union Territory to 125463. While 47 fresh cases of Covid-19 were detected in Kashmir Valley, the remaining 11 were confirmed by officials from Jammu division, → More On P6

Extortionist Held In Pulwama: Police

SRINAGAR: Police on Tuesday claimed to have arrested an alleged extortionist from south Kashmir's Pulwama district and recovered a toy pistol and live cartridges for self-loading rifles (SLRs). Rafeeq Ahmad Sheikh of Dalwach village of Khag area of Budgam district was arrested by police when he was trying to extort money from another person along the highway near Barsoo village in → More On P6

CRPF Constable Dies Of Heart Attack

SRINAGAR: A Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) man on Tuesday died after suffering a heart attack in Sopore town of north Kashmir's Baramulla district. Constable Mukesh Kumar Yadav, suffered a massive heart attack on Tuesday while he was performing his duty at CRPF Battalion headquarters in Wadura area of Sopore, officials said. A resident of Udaipur in Rajasthan, Yadav was >> More On P6

outh Found Dead In Qazigund

SRINAGAR: A youth from Ramban district of Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday was found dead in Qazigund area of south Kashmir's Kulgam district. 30-year-old Hashimdin Chichey, son of Shishu Chichey, a resident of Ramban was found dead by some locals on Tuesday morning and they accordingly informed the police, an official said. He said that a police team reached the spot and recovered the body. >> More On P6

Death Toll In **Uri Fire Reaches 3**

URI: Two days after her son died, a woman succumbed to serious burn injuries she had suffered in the fire incident here on February 7 this year, taking the death toll to three. officials said on Tuesday. In all, five persons, including three members of a family, had suffered injuries in the fire incident at Sultandaki area of Uri. The injured persons included Sajid Ahmad, Abdul Rasheed Khan, Roshi Begum, >> More On P6

Foreign Envoys Visiting Srinagar Today To 'Assess Ground Situation'



Foreign Envoys take a boat ride on Dal Lake in Srinagar KO File Photo: Abid Bhat

Press Trust Of India

Auqib Javeed

ish state of mind.

and hugged him tight.

CHEWA, BANDIPORA: Amid

long faces and a reigning silence,

a 9-year-old girl in red scarf

and green outfit sat wondering

Her tiny, shivering hands

"Be ches khotchan (I am

On Tuesday, former chief

minister of J&K, Mehbooba

apparently revealed her freak-

scared)" she told her uncle

about a sudden shift in her life.

NEW DELHI: Envoys from Europe and Africa will visit Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday to assess the development work and the security situation in the union territory, especially after recently concluded District Development Council elections, officials said

on Tuesday.

They said during their twoday visit, the envoys would receive first-hand information on the development work undertaken by the administration after abrogation of the special status of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir on August 5, 2019. Showcasing the efforts of the >> More On P6

'I Am Scared': Shivering Hands At Bandipora

Mufti took to micro blogging

site twitter and wrote, "Locals

in Bandipora have alleged that 3



Rainfall In J&K From On Feb 22

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The weather department on Tuesday predicted scattered rainfall in Jammu and Kashmir on February 22, even as the minimum temperature dropped at most places in Kashmir while the day temperature settled several notches above the normal for this time of the season.

According to a meteorological department official, the weather is largely expected to remain dry in the plains of Jammu and Kashmir this week but there's a possibility of scattered rainfall on February 22.

Meanwhile, Srinagar recorded a low of minus 0.9 degrees Celsius last night, down from minus 0.3 degrees Celsius the night before, they said. The city recorded >> More On P6

army men tried to abduct & mo-

lest a 9 year old girl. Her family

is now being ▶ More On P6

Police Cracks Down On Separatist Leaders, Militant Supporters House Of Asiya

Andrabi's In-Laws, Aide's SUV Among 72 **Properties Approved** For Seizure

Observer News Service

JAMMU: In a major crackdown against the separatist leaders and alleged militant supporters, the Jammu and Kashmir police on Tuesday approved seizure of at least 72 movable and immovable properties, including a house belonging



separatist leader Asiya Andrabi's mother in law and a SUV of her close aide Sofi Fahmeeda.

The police headquarters has accorded permission in 46 cases for seizure and attachment → More On P6

Govt Shifts Many Functions, **Functionaries Of Jal Shakti Dept To ULBs**

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir administration on Tuesday approved transfer of functions and functionaries of several Jal Shakti department divisions to Urban Local Bodies as mandated under the 74th constitutional amendment.

The amendment aims at strengthening democracy at the grass root level in urban areas through local bodies.

In an order, the Jal Shakti department approved transfer of its Jammu city public health engineering divisions (PHE), PHE mechanical divisions to the Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) for operation and maintenance of water supply schemes and related infrastructure along with posts of permanent officers and funds.

For the Kashmir Division of the Union Territory, the government transferred the Ia (PHE) city water works division of Srinagar, a part of the Srinagar PHE mechanical division, a part of the city sub-division of Ganderbal and a More On P6

Our Demand Is Special Status, Not Statehood: Mehbooba



Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: PDP president Mehbooba Mufti on Tuesday said her party was not merely demanding statehood but the restoration of pre-August 2019

status for Jammu and Kashmir. She also called for resumption of dialogue for the resolution of the Kashmir issue and alleged that there was "jungle raj" in the country.

"We are not demanding (the return of) statehood. We are demanding the pre-August 5, 2019 position of J&K and we also want the Kashmir issue -- for which thousands of youth have rendered sacrifices, lakhs of homes have been destroyed and losses in millions of rupees have been suffered -- to be >> More On P6

Pvt Schools

Alliance To

Operate Buses

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: An Alliance of pri-

vate schools on Tuesday rub-

bished media reports that the

transportation facility will not

be provided to the students

on the reopening of educa-

tional institutions in March

next month.

THERE IS JUNGLE RAJ HERE right now, the jungle raj is happening across the country also now, but it is more so in J&K."

J&K's Conversion To Union Territory

MPs Panel Seeks Details Of Investment Proposals From Centre

Agencies

SRINAGAR: A parliamentary panel has asked the Centre to submit the details of investment proposals received for the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir since its creation.

In its report tabled in the Parliament earlier this month, the department-related parliamentary standing committee on Ministry of Home Affairs has asked the Centre to apprise it about details of the projects undertaken/ proposed for creating necessary

social and physical infrastructure for attracting new industries and entrepreneurs in Jammu and Kashmir.

"The committee also desires to know about the details of investment proposals received for the UT of J&K since its creation," reads the report.

UT from October 31, 2019 after Parliament enacted Jammu & Kashmir Reorganisation Act-2019. The Committee has reiterated its recommendation of

setting up a planning board

and investment >> More On P6

I&K was downgraded into a

Slams BJP's 'Double Standards'

MP Akbar Lone' Son Slapped With UAPA, Arrested

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: National Conference leader Hilal Lone has been arrested under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act for allegedly delivering a hate speech at a rally during last year's district development council elections in Bandipora, a senior police official said on Tuesday.

Lone, the son of NC's Member of Parliament Mohammad Akbar Lone, was arrested on Monday from the MLA hostel here where he

he BJP has a completely different standard when it comes to hate speech from its leaders, Na-

tional Conference vice president Omar Abdullah alleged on Tuesday. Abdullah's remark came

after his party colleague Hilal Lone was arrested under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention)

Act (UAPA) for allegedly delivering a "hate speech" at a rally during last year's district development

council elections in Jammu and Kashmir's Bandipora. "The BJP has a completely "More On P6

was being held captive since December last year, the official said.

He was booked under various sections of the UAPA in an FIR registered at a police station in Hajin in north Kashmir's Bandipora district. >> More On P6

In a brief meeting with Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Dr Shahid Iqbal Chowdary who is currently holding charge of Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, the members of Private School Association strongly condemned the statement issued >> More On P6

Militants Trigger IED Blast In Bijbehara

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: Suspected militants triggered off a low intensity improvised explosive device (IED) in Bijbhera area of south Kashmir's Anantnag district on Tuesday, officials said.

However, they said there was no loss of life or injury reported in the explosion which took place at Pazalpora area of the Bijbhera. A senior police officer said that the small sized IED was placed inside a tipper. "So far there are no details about any loss of life or injury in the incident," he said. The area, he said, has been cordoned off and further investigations have been taken up.



An artist displays her work on the inaugural day of fine arts exhibition at Srinagar's TRC on Tuesday. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

Drabu Joins Air Works As Director

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Former Jammu and Kashmir finance minister Haseeb Drabu has formally ioined aircraft maintenance provider Air Works's board as an independent director after getting all requisite government and regulatory approvals, said an official statement on Tuesday.

"Dr Haseeb A Drabu - noted economist and policy maker was appointed to the Board of Directors of the MRO (maintenance, repair and overhaul) major in August 2020, subject to receipt of requisite government and regulatory approvals," said Air Works's statement.

The statement said he has joined the company's board now as he has >> More On P6

HC Hopes Govt Adheres To Laws For Disabled Persons

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Jammu Kashmir high court has closed a Public Interest Litigation, hoping that the governments in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh as also centre shall ensure adherence to the laws made in favour of disabled persons and for ensuring implementation of the scheme.

"We are satisfied with the implementation of the statute on the subject as also the schemes (for differently abled), however, we reiterate the directions passed by this Court from time to time and hope and trust that the respondents, including the Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh as also the Union of India, shall ensure adherence to the laws made in favour of disabled persons and for ensuring implementation of the scheme," said a bench of Justices Ali Mohammad

Magrey and Vinod Chatterji Koul. "We leave it open to the petitioner to approach this Court as and when non-adherence is noticed by the petitioner, but that should be

by submitting details of non-adherence," the court said, adding, "In view of above, the instant PIL is closed." The court's direction followed after B. A. Dar, Sr. AAG, submitted that >> More On P6