



**P5 NEWS**

### BUKHARI SPEWS VENOM AGAINST MEHBOOBA

J&K Apni Party chief Syed Altaf Bukhari spewed venom against the PDP chief and his ex boss Mehbooba Mufti by calling her a "thief", stating...

**P7 THINK**

### NAMES THAT DID NOT CLICK

Naming and renaming places and old or new infrastructure by a government is a common practice all over the world. However, it is not always that these officially assigned...



**P11 SPORTS**

### 'THEY SHOULD STOP MOANING' NASSER HUSSAIN IDENTIFIES ENGLAND'S 'BIGGEST ISSUE' IN INDIA

England need not moan about the condition of Indian pitches and instead rectify inconsistency in their...



**Widom Quote!**

A proof once established is better left so.  
— Mark Twain

**NEWS DIGEST**

#### Three OGWs Arrested In Tral: Police

SRINAGAR: Police on Wednesday claimed to have arrested three Over Ground Workers (OGWs) of Hizbul-Mujahideen outfit in Tral area of South Kashmir's Awantipora. In a statement, the spokesperson said that acting on specific information of militant movement, Awantipora Police along with 42 RR and 180 BN CRPF launched search operation in village. **More On P10**

#### Army Destroys Suspected IED In Rajouri

JAMMU: A suspected Improvised Explosive Device (IED) planted inside a pressure cooker was detected on a busy highway in Rajouri district of Jammu region on Wednesday, officials said. The suspected IED was found on the roadside at Manjakote on Jammu-Poonch highway and was subsequently destroyed by the Army's Bomb Disposal Squad (BDS), the officials said. **More On P10**

#### 2 Soldiers Injured In Road Accident

JAMMU: Two Army personnel were injured on Wednesday when the vehicle they were travelling in fell down from a bridge in Kathua district of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said. The Army vehicle broke the bridge's railing after its driver lost control of the vehicle and crashed it into the dry river bed at Sahar Khad along Jammu-Pathankot highway, the officials said. **More On P10**

#### 3 DDC Members Join NC In Ramban

JAMMU: A day ahead of the scheduled elections for the posts of DDC chairperson and vice-chairperson in Jammu and Kashmir's Ramban district, the National Conference (NC) received a shot in the arm on Wednesday as three independent councillors joined the party. The NC, with six seats, emerged as the largest party in the district but fell short of majority by two seats. However, it was **More On P10**

#### Driver Held For Smuggling Bovine

SRINAGAR: Police in Kathua arrested a truck driver for allegedly smuggling bovines into Kashmir Valley. Muhammad Yakub, a resident of Dina Nagar Gurdaspur was arrested by a police team from Hiranagar after his truck was intercepted and during checking 17 bovines were found loaded in the vehicle, reports said Wednesday. **More On P10**



KO Photo: Abid Bhat

## Foreign Envoys Spend A Day In Kashmir Valley

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A group of envoys, including those from several Europe Union countries and a few OIC member states, began a two-day visit to Jammu and

Kashmir on Wednesday. They are here, according to government officials, to have a first-hand account of the situation, especially after the recently concluded local body elections. The envoys, which has

representation from six OIC countries Malaysia, Bangladesh, Senegal Ghana, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan -- were taken to Magam in central Kashmir amid heightened security arrangements in **More On P10**

#### Govt's 'Guided Tour A Futile PR Exercise': Cong

Coming down heavily on the BJP-led government at the Centre, senior Congress leader Saifuddin Soz on Wednesday said that the foreign **More On P10**

#### Delegations Come And Go: Mehbooba

Former Chief Minister and Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) chief Wednesday said that the delegations will come and go but the fact **More On P10**

#### Trains Likely To Chug From Feb 22



File Photo

Agencies

SRINAGAR: After remaining suspended for the last 10 months due to Covid-19 pandemic, the rail services are all set to resume "partially" from February 22 onwards in Kashmir, officials said on Wednesday.

The officials said that Chief Area Manager Northern Railway Srinagar has written a communication to SSP/GRP/ Srinagar, clearly mentioning that the train services are to be partially restored in Banihal-Baramulla section from February 22. The Chief Area Manager is learnt to have sought comments **More On P10**

## HC Bans Constructions In Gulmarg

Asks Chief Conservator Of Forests To Ensure No Tree Is Cut Down

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir High Court on Wednesday banned all types of construction in Gulmarg, the ecological fragile world famous skiing resort in north Kashmir.

Hearing a Public Interest Litigation, a bench of Justices Ali Mohammad Magrey and Vinod Chatterji Koul also banned cutting down of any tree in Gulmarg.

"This Public Interest Litigation was filed way back in the year 2012. Petitioner, namely Mohammad Rafiq Zargar, has sought restoration of prestige and pristine glory of world-renowned tourist resort, viz. Gulmarg," the court observed. This Court, the bench said, has



File Photo: Abid Bhat

passed slew of directions aiming at preserving glory of Gulmarg.

"It was in consequence of directions of this Court that a High Level Meeting, chaired by Chief Secretary, J&K, was held, in which threadbare discussion

had taken place and various steps were taken for preserving glory of Gulmarg. It was also decided to take a fresh process for formulation of the Master Plan," the court observed. A number **More On P10**

**THE CHAIRMAN, POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD, shall ensure that all the hotels in Gulmarg have proper sewerage and drainage facilities, The Chief Conservator of Forests shall ensure that no tree is cut down in Gulmarg."**

## NC MPs To Skip Delimitation Panel's Proceedings



Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: National Conference MPs led by party president Farooq Abdullah on Wednesday informed the Delimitation Commission for Jammu and Kashmir that they wouldn't participate in its proceedings as the abrogation of the erstwhile state's special status was pending adjudication before the Supreme Court. In a letter to Delimitation Commission chairperson Justice

(Retd) Ranjana Prakash Desai, Abdullah, Hasnain Masoodi and Muhammad Akbar Lone expressed their inability to associate with the commission.

They also urged him not to go ahead with the delimitation process as the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019 is under judicial scrutiny.

The Delimitation Commission for Jammu and Kashmir was constituted by the Centre on March 6 last year to redraw Lok Sabha **More On P10**

## 'Militant' Arrested From Jammu Airport: Police

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: A coordinator and facilitator of militant activities of various groups was arrested from Jammu airport on Wednesday soon after his arrival from abroad, police said here.

The man was identified by the police as Sher Ali.

In a statement issued here, a police spokesperson said that Ali is the main coordinator and facilitator of militant activities of various groups. Ali, he said, is involved in facilitating infiltration of militants, smuggling of arms and ammunition and narcotics from Pakistan-controlled Kashmir (PcK) to Indian Territory from Balakote area of Poonch district.

Police sources said Ali was arrested based on specific information immediately after his arrival at the Jammu airport. "He has been **More On P10**

## Youth Shot At, Injured In High Security Zone

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Suspected militants shot at and injured a youth in an audacious attack in the high security zone Sonwar here on Wednesday setting off alarms bells ringing in the security establishment.

22-year-old Akash Mehra of Janipora Jammu was critically injured when suspected militants fired upon him near a dhaba in the high security zone Sonwar area of this capital city on Wednesday evening, officials said. The youth, who sustained bullet injury in chest in the audacious attack, was removed to SMHS hospital here for treatment.

Akash, reports said, is son of Ramesh Kumar Mehra who has been running Krishna Dhaba, a famous vegetarian eatery in the area for decades. Medical Superintendent, SMHS hospital, Dr Nazir Choudhary **More On P10**



KO Photo: Abid Bhat

## IAF Proposes Closure Of Jammu Airport For 15 Days



File Photo

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: The Indian Air Force (IAF) has proposed closure of the Jammu airport for civilian traffic for 15 days next month for runway resurfacing work, drawing a strong resentment from the Jammu and Kashmir administration which has sought the defence ministry's intervention into the matter, officials said on Wednesday.

Nearly two dozen flights operate to and from the Jammu airport, and in view of the development, all the companies operating their flights

in the sector have stopped booking for the period.

Quoting a communication addressed to the Jammu airport director, the officials said Air Force Station, Jammu wants complete closure of the runway for 15 days towards laying of final two top DAC-II layers on the runway surface from March 6 to 20, which has been approved by Air Headquarters.

The officials said Jammu and Kashmir Chief Secretary B V R Subrahmanyam lodged his protest with the Civil Aviation Ministry against such **More On P10**

## Centre Approves Srinagar As Transit Camp For Soldiers

Agencies

NEW DELHI: The Union Defence Ministry issued sanction to include Srinagar as a transit camp for commencement and termination of leave of Army personnel in and out of Kashmir Valley, said a statement by the Indian Army.

"As per existing orders, the commencement and termination of leave of Army personnel posted in Kashmir valley used to be from and at Jammu, Delhi and

Chandigarh transit camps only. However, with the growth of the aviation sector, there is an increased reliance on civil airlines by all ranks while proceeding on leave, temporary duty, course, or posting to and from Srinagar," the official statement said.

The sanction has been issued on January 14. The statement added, "The new arrangement ensures the minimum absence of troops from operationally committed **More On P10**

## Matric, Class 12th Results In March: BOSE

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education (BOSE) is likely to declare annual regular results of 10th and 12th standard after two weeks.

BOSE chairman, Veena Pandita said that the Board will likely declare the results

of both classes after two week.

"We will try to declare the results as early as possible and most probably the results would be declared after two weeks," she said.

On asking about the delay in declaring results, Pandita said that the results got delayed because **More On P10**



**Dr. Dominic Shellard**

Ex Vice Chancellor

is giving a free webinar

on

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> February at 8:00 pm IST

Please register your interest at

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