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P3 NEWS

## FAROOQ ABDULLAH ADVOCATES DIALOGUE WITH PAKISTAN TO END VIOLENCE IN J&amp;K

National Conference president Farooq Abdullah on Sunday advocated dialogue with Pakistan to end terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir, saying friendship....

P7 THINK

## THE LEGACY OF MALCOLM X

It's a cold Thursday afternoon in New York City. A tall Black man, in a black jacket, black track pants and black sneakers enters the Malcolm Shabazz Mosque on 116th Street in Harlem. He looks around before approaching the older man...



P11 SPORTS

## 'A TEST BATSMAN MUST BE ABLE TO HANDLE ALL KINDS OF CONDITIONS,' FEELS BEN STOKES

Brushing aside the incessant talk around spin-friendly pitches in India, big-hitting England all-rounder...



## Widom Quote!

The soul is healed by being with children.  
— Fyodor Dostoevsky

## NEWS DIGEST

## IED Defused In Srinagar Outskirts

**SRINAGAR:** An Improvised Explosive Device (IED) was diffused in Nowgam area of the Srinagar city outskirts on Monday, police said. CRPF personnel, patrolling the Srinagar-Baramulla highway, found an IED by the roadside, a police official said. He said the traffic along the arterial road had to be stopped. Later the bomb disposal squad defused the IED and ►► [More On P10](#)

## Cardiac Arrest Kills Doctor In Anantnag

**SRINAGAR:** A doctor died on Monday after suffering a massive cardiac arrest in south Kashmir's Anantnag district. Dr Ashiq Hussain from Srinagar's Lal Bazar locality suffered a massive cardiac arrest at his clinic in Anantnag town on Monday afternoon, Chief Medical Officer (CMO) Anantnag, Mukhtar Ahmad Shah said. Ashiq, he said, was immediately ►► [More On P10](#)

## Fake Job Racket Busted, 5 Held: Police

**SRINAGAR:** Police claimed to have busted a fake job racket by arresting five people, including two constables of the railway protection force (RPF), officials said Monday. Ashiq Hussain Naik of Kulgam, Ajaz Ahmad Lone of Sopore, Abdul Rashid Wani of Budgam and Hafizullah Lone and Ather-ul-Islam, both residents of Lolab were arrested by police with fake and forged appointment orders in ►► [More On P10](#)

## Youth Held In Petrol Pump Loot Case

**SRINAGAR:** Police have reportedly arrested a youth in connection with the robbery incident at a fuel station in central Kashmir's Budgam district last week. A 27-year-old mechanic from Bema has been rounded up by police in its probe into the loot of Rs 4 lakh cash from a petrol pump in Nadi-gam area of Budgam few days ago, news agency KNT reported Monday. Quoting ►► [More On P10](#)

## BSF Director General Visits Border Posts

**JAISALMER:** Border Security Force Director General Rakesh Asthana on Sunday visited forward posts along the India-Pakistan border here and inaugurated a government housing complex for the families of BSF personnel of the 119th Corps under the Regional Headquarters. Asthana, who started his three-day visit to Jaisalmer on Sunday, paid tributes to martyrs at the ►► [More On P10](#)

## 5 Day Wet Spell In Kashmir From Today

Flight Operations, Highway Traffic Likely To Be Affected On Feb 26

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** The meteorological department on Monday predicted five day wet spells in Jammu and Kashmir from Tuesday, while issuing a yellow warning for isolated heavy rain and snowfall on February 26 that could disrupt flight operations and make road conditions on the highways slippery.

According to a meteorological department official, scattered to wide-spread rain and snow is most likely in Jammu and Kashmir during Tuesday to ending February under the influence of two Western Disturbances.

"This system is most likely to affect North Kashmir, extreme western Ladakh during next 2 days, central, south Kashmir, Pirpanjal and

Jammu region from 25th onwards," he said.

He further said that heavy rain and snow are expected at some places during February 25-26th and it's probable impacts include slippery road conditions on Banihal-Ramban, Zojila, Mughal road etc and May cause disruption of flights on 26th," the official added.

Meanwhile, the temperatures increased above sub-zero level across Kashmir Valley with Srinagar recording a low of 5.8 degree Celsius against 1.4 degree Celsius on the previous night, the official said.

The temperature was 4.9 degrees above the normal for this time of the year in Srinagar, the official said. Qazigund recorded a low of 3.0 degree Celsius against 0.0 degree Celsius on the previous night. ►► [More On P10](#)



## Train Services Resume In Kashmir After 11 Months



Nearly 1,100 people travelled between Banihal and Baramulla railway stations as train services resumed in Kashmir on Monday after remaining suspended for around 11 months due to the COVID-19 pandemic, officials said.

Two trains chugged on the railway tracks in Kashmir as the

railway authorities resumed the services partially, they said.

The officials said nearly 1,100 passengers used the service on the first day after the resumption of the service.

"We will be following this schedule — one train up from Banihal and one down from Baramulla — for the time being," they said.

## 'Crackdown' Makes Comeback In City Centre

Observer Monitoring Desk

**SRINAGAR:** In a reminiscence of 90s era, Special Operations Group (SOG) of police and CRPF on Monday carried out a crackdown in Lal Chowk area of this capital city and subjected the people to frisking and identification checks.

SOG personnel assisted by paramilitary CRPF cordoned off a stretch from court road to Hari Singh High Street here and carried out a surprise crackdown, reports said. The commuters and pedestrians, the report said were made to stay in a queue and subjected to frisking and identification checks.

The videos and photographs of HSHS and Amira Kadal frisking went viral on social media. Most of the netizens said that the crackdown was reminiscent of 1990s when people would be lined up only to be frisked and questioned and ►► [More On P10](#)

## LG To J&amp;K Politicians

## 'Want Early Assembly Polls Cooperate With Delimitation Panel'

Press Trust Of India

**JAMMU:** Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday said political parties should cooperate in the completion of the delimitation exercise if they want early elections in Jammu and Kashmir.

"Those who want early assembly elections in J-K are requested to help and cooperate with the delimitation commission, instead of making excuses," Sinha told reporters. He was asked about the demand raised by the PDP and the NC for holding early assembly polls.

The Delimitation Commission met on Thursday to seek suggestions from the associate members



on the process of delimitation of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

Associate members are lawmakers from their respective states who assist the delimitation panel in

redrawing parliamentary and assembly constituencies.

However, National Conference's Farooq Abdullah, Mohammad Akbar Lone and Hasnain Masoodi skipped the meeting. ►► [More On P10](#)

## Mehbooba Strikes A Defiant Note

## 'Let IGP Kashmir Do His Duty, I Will Do Mine'



KO Photo: Abid Bhat

Agencies

**SRINAGAR:** Days after Inspector General of Police (IGP) Kashmir,

Vijay Kumar warned mainstream leaders for instigating masses with fake news and rumours, the Peoples ►► [More On P10](#)

## Retains PDP Presidency For 3 Years

The former chief minister of Jammu and Kashmir Mehbooba Mufti was on Monday re-elected as the president of Peoples Democratic Party (PDP). Mehbooba was unanimously re-elected as party president for the period of three years, said a party spokesperson. He said that her ►► [More On P10](#)

## MPs To Present 'Real Hero Awards' In Kashmir

Agencies

**SRINAGAR:** A group of parliamentarians are visiting Jammu and Kashmir next month to honour persons who have outstanding performance in different fields.

Highly placed sources said that during the mega award event titled "Real Hero Awards" the Members of Parliament (MPs) will present awards to youth icons, media persons, social activists, medicos, para medics, sports persons and others.

Sources said that some officials from civil and police administration having outstanding performance will also be honoured during the event. "The event will ►► [More On P10](#)

**I WANT TO SEE THE END TO SUFFERINGS OF PEOPLE** that include denial of body of a slain son to his father. I won't allow Kashmir to become a ring of war for India and Pakistan and instead Kashmir should become a bridge of peace between the two nations. Dialogue is the best way to resolve issues."

## Bird Flu Case Detected In A'nag

Agencies

**SRINAGAR:** A case of H5N8 (Avian influenza) also known as bird flu has been reported from Dooru area in south Kashmir's Anantnag district.

Officials said that the samples of dead crows taken ten days earlier in Arbal area of Dooru have come out positive. They said soon after the confirmation of the case, a rapid response team has been deployed in the area.

Officials said that SOPs are to be adopted fully by the rapid response team besides that demarcation of the infected and surveillance zone along with disinfection of the area is also being done. ►► [More On P10](#)

## Schools To Reopen In 'Staggered Manner' Next Month

Agencies

**SRINAGAR:** The government on Monday ordered reopening of all schools in Kashmir Valley in a staggered manner from next month.

The government said that the schools will only reopen on March-01 for the students' of 9th to 12th standard and the students of elementary classes

will reopen for physical academic activities from March-08.

"In continuation of government order, it is hereby ordered that all government educational institutions including recognized private schools shall physically open in a staggered manner for academic activities wherein schools of Kashmir division and winter

zone of Jammu division for Class 9th to 12th will function from March-01-2021," reads the order issued by the administrative secretary to the government, B K Singh.

It further reads that in case of elementary classes' upto class 8th, teachers shall attend the schools from March-01-2021 for preparation ►► [More On P10](#)

## KU's Leh, Kargil Satellite Campus Shifted To Ladakh UT

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has formally transferred the satellite campus of University of Kashmir located at Leh and Kargil to the Union Territory of Ladakh on "as is where is basis" along with staff. In an order, commissioner secretary to the government, Manoj Kumar Dwivedi (IAS), said that the Lt. Governor has transferred Leh and Kargil satellite campus' of University of Kashmir to Ladakh UT. "In terms of section 84(3) read with section 85(2) of the ►► [More On P10](#)

## 'We Have Lost Everything': Grieving Grandfather At Aishmuqam

Augib Javeed

**LOGRIPORA, AISHMUQAM:** In a room full of mourners, septuagenarian

Mohammad Abdullah Ahanger sits numb with grief.

His frozen face makes grievous believe that he's shattered by his cop grandson, Sohail Ahmad Ahanger's killing.

Ahanger Jr. along with his colleague Mohammad Yousuf was killed in a militant attack at Bhagat Barzulla area of Srinagar on February 19.

CCTV footage of the killing went viral on social media sites, and drew raging reactions.

"Kam'bar phutum (I'm shattered)," Abdullah, a retired government teacher, told Kashmir Observer.

The slain cop is survived by his young widow, two orphans, his aged 'half-widow' mother, and his yet-to-be-named conflict-torn parentage of Kashmir, his grandfather.

Amid cries and shrieks, Sohail's innocent twin—Sehal (4) and Usman (2)—are still wondering about their Janu, their father's routine calls.

"Since those calls have forever stopped now, they're enquiring about their father," the grieving grandfather said.

"We haven't told them anything. And what're we supposed to tell them! Should I tell them that this

what was written in their fate?"

To express solidarities, the villagers arrive in twos and threes at the Ahanger home, nestled 70 kilometers from Srinagar.

This is the second strife tragedy that has struck to the family in last thirty years.

Sohail was 7-months old when his father, Mushtaq Ahmad Ahanger, a flour mill clerk, disappeared during nine-ties. Like many other Kashmiris, his whereabouts are still unknown. ►► [More On P10](#)

