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P5 NEWS

## NO LICENSE REQUIRED TO OPERATE STONE CRUSHERS, HOT & WET MIXING PLANTS

In its resolve to promote 'Ease of Doing Business' by creating a business-friendly environment, the Government of Jammu and Kashmir today notified...

THINK

## DO YOU REALLY NEED IVF? A NEW ONLINE TOOL CAN HELP YOU WEIGH UP YOUR OPTIONS

People who want a baby and struggle to conceive often resort to in vitro fertilisation (IVF). While IVF has helped countless people have children, it's...



P11 SPORTS

## SPORT DOES NOT RECOGNISE ANYTHING OTHER THAN ON-FIELD PERFORMANCE: SACHIN TENDULKAR

Cricket icon Sachin Tendulkar firmly believes that sport only recognises performance on the field....



Widom Quote!

Do not fear failure but rather fear not trying

— Roy T. Bennett

### NEWS DIGEST

## J&K Logs 94 Corona Cases, One Death

SRINAGAR: One more person died of coronavirus in Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday while 94 fresh cases of Covid-19, including 47 travellers were detected across the Union Territory during the last 24 hours. Among the fresh cases, 22 were from Jammu Division and 72 from Kashmir Valley, taking the total case tally to 126019, they said. Providing district ► [More On P10](#)

## Youth Killed As Car Roll Into Gorge

BHADERWAH: A 23-year-old man died on Tuesday when his car skidded off the road and fell into a 800-foot-deep gorge in Jammu and Kashmir's Doda district, police said. Sajjad Hussain, a resident of Sanwara village, was driving from Chilli to Malikpora when the accident occurred around 10.20 am, Superintendent of Police, Bhaderwah, Raj Singh Gouria said. ► [More On P10](#)

## 5 Shotguns Seized From Poachers

SRINAGAR: Police on Wednesday claimed to have seized five shotguns from poachers in central Kashmir's Ganderbal district. Officers from Police Station Kheerbhawani and Police Post Shadipora raided different locations in Shalbugh and Paribal villages of Ganderbal and recovered five 12-bore guns from poachers, who are misusing their licensed weapons and killing large ► [More On P10](#)

## Missing Anantnag Youth Found Dead

SRINAGAR: A youth missing for the last three weeks, was found dead on Wednesday in a canal in Dialgam area of south Kashmir's Anantnag district. Javid Ahmad Pathan alias Jeenu, a resident of Heaven Colony Anantnag was found dead in a canal in Dialgam by locals, who informed the police instantly, officials said. A police team reached the spot and took the body into custody ► [More On P10](#)

## Man Opens Fire Over Land Dispute

JAMMU: A man opened fire Tuesday during a scuffle between two groups over a land dispute in the Kathua district of Jammu and Kashmir, a police official said. While the person fired two shots in the air, injuring nobody, he himself got injured in legs as he fell down when people tried to overpower him, the official said. The incident took place at Thali-Badi village of ► [More On P10](#)

## MeT Issues 'Yellow' Warning As Rains Lash Kashmir



File Photo: Abid Bhat

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Kashmir Valley and Banihal received rainfall overnight even as minimum temperatures increased, weatherman said on Tuesday. A meteorological department official said that Srinagar recorded a low of 6.6 degree Celsius against 5.8 degree Celsius on the previous night. The temperature was around six degrees Celsius above the normal for this time of the year in Srinagar where 2.2mm of rainfall was recorded in the last 24 hours till 0830 hours, the official said.

Qazigund, the gateway town of J&K, recorded a low of 4.0 degree Celsius against 3.0 degree Celsius on the previous night and had a rainfall of 3.4mm during the time, the official said. The mercury settled at 3.2 degree Celsius at Pahalgam against minus 1.2 degree Celsius on the earlier night while the world-famous tourist resort recorded 3.2mm of rainfall.

Kokernag, also in south Kashmir, recorded a low of 3.4 degree Celsius against 4.0 degree Celsius on the previous night and had a rainfall of 2.2mm, he said. ► [More On P10](#)

**THERE ARE FOUR TYPES COLOUR CODES SIGNIFYING THE LEVEL OF CAUTION:** green which means no action, yellow—situation to be watched), amber—government agencies need to be prepared for severe weather and red—action needed by the agencies.

## Soldier Killed During Practice Firing

Agencies

JAMMU: A soldier was killed and two others were injured during a practice firing session in Akhnoor Sector of Jammu region on Tuesday, officials said.

They said 'gunner' Sayan Ghosh of Artillery Regiment suffered fatal injury while two other soldiers were injured while carrying out live firing training at Field Firing Ranges in Akhnoor Sector, reported news agency GNS.

All the injured were shifted to hospital where Ghosh was declared brought dead while two others were admitted.

SDPO Akhnoor Varun Jandyal said that while one soldier dies, two other injured soldiers have been admitted in the army hospital.

PRO Defence Jammu Lt Col Devinder Anand confirmed the incident and said that it took place at around 10: 30 am.

## Militant's Identity Established 6 Months After Death

Agencies

SRINAGAR: DNA test established the identity of a Kupwara youth, killed along with two other militant colleagues in Pattan area of north Kashmir's Baramulla district last year, officials said on Tuesday.

They said three militants were killed while an army major and two policemen were injured in a gunfight in Yadipora area of Pattan in north Kashmir's Baramulla district on September 4 last year.

Soon, the police had summoned families of all the three militants. While two families had identified their kin as Hanan Bilal Sofi son of ► [More On P10](#)

## J&K Transporters Defer Strike By A Day

Agencies

SRINAGAR: All Jammu and Kashmir Transporters Welfare Committee – an amalgam of various transport associations— on Tuesday deferred by a day its indefinite strike which was scheduled to begin from Wednesday.

General Secretary, Kashmir Welfare Transporters Association, Sheikh Muhammad Yusuf said that a meeting is scheduled on February 24 afternoon with



File Photo

Finance Commissioner, Finance Department, who is chairman of Fare and Freight Committee

also comprising Transport commissioners of Kashmir and Jammu division. ► [More On P10](#)

## Govt For Viable Resolution Of Genuine Demands

Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Dr Shahid Iqbal Choudhary Tuesday assured the transporters that the government is for the earliest and a viable resolution of their genuine demands and urged them to call off their strike. Speaking in a special meeting he convened with them the DC assured the heads of different associations associated the transport sector that their genuine demands would be taken up with higher authorities and a viable resolution be found within a stipulated time period. The assurance ► [More On P10](#)

## Special Court Rejects Parra's Bail Plea

'Evidence Shows He Was Aiding Militancy In Garb Of Politics'

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: A special court rejected the bail application of PDP leader Waheed Parra on Tuesday, saying the charges against him were "grave, serious and heinous in nature" and that a preliminary analysis of



evidence collected so far show he was aiding militancy in Jammu and Kashmir in the garb of a politician.

In a 19-page ► [More On P10](#)

## Aasiya Charged For 'Waging War' Against India

Delhi court has framed militancy, sedition and other charges against Kashmiri separatist Aasiya Andrabi and her two associates for ► [More On P10](#)

## Budgam Admin Clueless On Training, Awareness Programmes: RTI

Observer Monitoring Desk

Srinagar: In an embarrassing move, the district authorities in central Kashmir's Budgam have failed to furnish details to an RTI petitioner on the training and awareness programmes conducted for designated officers and disadvantaged communities since November 1, 2019.

Replying to the RTI application filed by RTI Movement Chairman, Dr. Raja Muzaffar seeking information with respect to the training/awareness programmes conducted for designated officers/ disadvantaged communities since November 1, 2019 in

the central Kashmir district, the Public information officer, Rayees Ahmed Bhat has expressed his helplessness saying that the requested information was "not available in the repository of this office".

"As such undersigned is constrained from divulging any exact information," he replies in the letter issued on January 25, 2021.

Muzaffar had requested information about the training/awareness programmes conducted by the district administration about RTI Act after the abrogation of special status in August 2019.

Responding to another query from RTI applicant about the ► [More On P10](#)

## Be Goodwill Ambassadors Of J&K, LG To Tourists



Agencies

SRINAGAR: J&K Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha paid a visit to Dal Lake on Tuesday, where he met several tourists who came from different parts of the country. During his interaction with the tourists, the LG enquired about the experiences

of their visit to Jammu and Kashmir.

"Be the goodwill ambassadors of Jammu & Kashmir and carry the message to your respective areas that J&K is an ideal and safe tourist destination," Sinha urged the tourists.

While assuring the tourists a safe and ► [More On P10](#)

## PDD Announces Measures To Prevent Accidental Deaths

Field Staff To Be Equipped With PPEs, Safety Helmets And Belts; Insulating Gloves

Observer News Service

JAMMU: The Power Development Department on Tuesday announced a slew of measures, including procurement of Personal Protective equipment (PPE) and other safety devices for the field staff with an aim to prevent accidental deaths and injuries to the workforce.

These directions were passed by the Principal Secretary, PDD, Rohit Kansal while discussing the steps being taken by the Department for ensuring safety and security of the field staff while performing duties in the

field, an official spokesperson said Tuesday.

The department, he said, has directed its field offices to immediately focus on relevant safety measures and to ensure that there is no loss of human life.

"As part of this effort, the department has directed both the Jammu and Kashmir Power Development Corporations to ensure that Isolators and earthing rods are provided on every 11 KV feeder in the UT. This shall ensure that the field workers shall remain safe even if there is accidental touching of live lines or equipment and due to accidental charging of lines or equipment during shut down activity," the official spokesperson said.

He said that for the first time, the PDD has set aside nearly Rs 5 crores for the procurement of PPEs and other ► [More On P10](#)

## Cult-Breaker 'Captain' from Kashmir Is New Rising Start-Up Star

Malik Huda

Ruhan Naqash's ingenious world is driven by the get-up-and-go dynamism — the knack making contemporary self-starters cult-breakers in their fields.

He may not be among the movers and shakers yet, but with his resilient team, this Barzulla boy is already leading by an example, away from his homeland, in the southern metropolitan city of Bangalore.

Among other things, this young educator, with his mentoring platform, is trying to alter the religious

mindset devoted to certain career cults.

"There's lack of exposure in the valley and elsewhere, forcing people to seek refuge in medical and non-medical fields," Ruhan, 26, says.

He wants to end this obsession by guiding creative minds and grooming them with proper mentorship.

"Many students are willing to join and explore new fields like acting, singing, dancing, writing, painting, etc, but lack of parental support makes them paranoid," he says.

"This is what we're trying to change."

Before becoming a guiding light for students—pressurised to pursue certain subjects—Ruhan had rebelled to safeguard his creative pursuit during his school days itself.

After finishing his early education from his hometown Srinagar, he was supposed to sustain his family's medical background.

"But I chose my own way," he says.

From the very beginning, he wanted to become a writer, a professional novelist precisely, but couldn't pursue this career due to lack of opportunities and a proper grooming.

He eventually decided to become an engineer and joined SRM University, Chennai.

"Engineering was a forced vocation for me," he continues detailing his life history which would eventually compel him to become an inventive interventionist. ► [More On P10](#)

