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P3 NEWS

DEVOLUTION OF FUNCTIONS AND PLANNING HALLMARK OF LOCAL SELF GOVT: DC SRINAGAR

Deputy Commissioner Srinagar Dr Shahid Iqbal Choudhary Friday dwelled on the steps being taken by the administration to strengthen the three-tier Panchayat Raj system and also...

P7 THINK

AN EMAIL FROM THE AFTERWORLD

Jack Froese had been a close friend of Hart's since their teens. A few months earlier Froese and Hart had been up in Hart's attic at his home in Dunmore, Pennsylvania. Jack had teased him then...



P11 SPORTS

ROHIT SHARMA TERMS MOTERA TRACK 'INTERESTING' BUT 'NORMAL INDIAN WICKET'

Intent to score and not just survive was the key to flourish on the Motera pitch, asserted India...



Widom Quote!

Where there is ruin, there is hope for a treasure
— Rumi

NEWS DIGEST

J&K Logs 85 Cases, One Corona Death

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir on Friday recorded 85 new positive cases of COVID-19, taking the tally to 1,26,286, even as one fresh death due to the virus was reported in the past 24 hours, officials said. The death toll in the Union territory due to the pandemic is 1,956, they said. Out of the fresh cases, 16 were from Jammu division and 69 from Kashmir division of the Union territory, they further said. [▶ More On P10](#)

Two OGWs Held In Bandipora: Police

SRINAGAR: Police on Friday claimed to have arrested two militant associates from Hajin area of Bandipora district. Ghulam Mohi-ud-din Khan and Riyaz Ahmad Bhat, both residents of Hajin were arrested from Bonikhan Mohalla, Hajin in a joint operation launched by police, army's 13 RR and the personnel of CRPF 45 battalion on the basis of specific inputs, a police spokesperson said Friday. [▶ More On P10](#)

Police Prevent 3 Youth From Crossing LoC

SRINAGAR: Police on Friday detained three youth from north Kashmir's Kupwara district who were allegedly attempting to cross Line of Control (LoC) for arms training. Mohammad Rameez, a mechanic by profession, Javid Ahmad Rather and Aijaz Ahmad Sofi, all residents of Kupwara were detained by police after receiving specific input that some "misguided" youth were in touch with militants across the fence and were [▶ More On P10](#)

Court Quashes

Student's PSA Detention

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir High Court has quashed the detention of a north Kashmir youth under the controversial Public Safety Act (PSA). According to the reports, the detention of Omar Akbar Mir of Brat Kalan Sopore, was quashed by the court on Friday, nearly two years after he was arrested on charges of stone pelting in 2019 and simultaneously booked under the PSA. Justice Vinod Chatterji after hearing the arguments of [▶ More On P10](#)

4 Grenades Recovered In Poonch

JAMMU: Government forces launched a cordon and search operation in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district and recovered four grenades and ammunition on Friday, officials said. A joint search operation was launched in Mendhar belt based on disclosure of Sher Ali, a coordinator and facilitator of militant activities of various groups who [▶ More On P10](#)

UN Chief Encouraged By India, Pak Truce Pact

Hopes This Positive Step Will Provide Opportunity For Further Dialogue



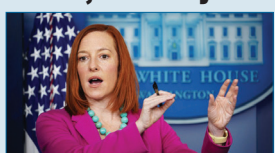
Press Trust Of India

UNITED NATIONS: Top UN leadership has welcomed the announcement by militaries of India and Pakistan to strictly observe all agreements on ceasefire along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and

Kashmir and other sectors, with UN chief Antonio Guterres expressing hope that this "positive step will provide an opportunity for further dialogue."

In a significant move to ease tension, the militaries of India and Pakistan said on Thursday that they have [▶ More On P10](#)

Positive Step Towards 'Greater Peace, Stability': US



Press Trust Of India

The United States has welcomed the joint statement of India and Pakistan to strictly observe all agreements on ceasefire along the Line of Control and other sectors, saying it is a positive step towards greater peace and stability in South Asia. White House [▶ More On P10](#)

Border Residents Hope For Peace

The announcement by India and Pakistan to strictly observe all agreements on ceasefire along the Line of Control (LoC) and other sectors has rekindled hope for a peaceful future among border residents in Jammu and Kashmir who have been living under constant fear of firing and shelling. "We are joyous over the news of a fresh agreement between the two countries to observe complete ceasefire along the borderline. It has rekindled hope among us," [▶ More On P10](#)

Fresh Snowfall In Gulmarg, Other Higher Reaches

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Gulmarg and other higher reaches received fresh snowfall while rains lashed parts of Kashmir Valley, weatherman said on Friday.

A meteorological department official said that Gulmarg received 2.5cms of snow in the last 24 hours till 0830 hours. The resort, the venue for the second Khelo India Winter Games beginning today, also recorded a low of minus 0.8 degree Celsius against minus 0.6 degree Celsius earlier night, the official said.

Snowfall on higher reaches was also received from other parts of the Valley.

The Met official said that Srinagar recorded a low of 8.0 degree Celsius against 7.4 degree Celsius on the previous night. The temperature was 6.5 degrees Celsius above the normal for this time of the year in Srinagar where traces of rainfall were recorded during the time, the official said.

Qazigund recorded a low of 5.7 degree Celsius against 6.6 degree Celsius on the previous night while the gateway town of J&K had 1.2mm of rainfall during [▶ More On P10](#)

Kansal Directs Early Completion Of Power Projects



Observer News Service

JAMMU: Principal Secretary Power Development Department (PDD), Rohit Kansal on Friday directed the

power corporations of Jammu and Kashmir to minimize the gap between completion of projects and handing over the same to be put for public use at the earliest. [▶ More On P10](#)

Random Searches Return To City Centre



Agencies

SRINAGAR: Random and surprise searches and frisking by security forces continued for the past few

days on Friday in Srinagar, where gunmen shot dead two personnel of Jammu and Kashmir police and shot at and injured a dhaba owner's son during the [▶ More On P10](#)

HC Closes PIL On Food Adulteration

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir High Court on Friday closed a Public Interest Litigation regarding menace of food adulteration, hoping and trusting that the authorities will "effectively and efficiently" take action against offenders.

"We are of the opinion that there is no purpose in keeping this petition (PIL) alive. We, as such, direct that this petition be consigned to records with the hope and trust that the authorities will continue to act most effectively and efficiently and would take all measured precautions so that the Food Safety and Standard Act and the Rules thereunder are not violated and the offenders are strictly punished for which purpose regularly checking and sampling is continuously carried out," a bench of Chief Justice Pankaj Mithal and Justice Tashi Rabstan said.

The PIL was initiated on [▶ More On P10](#)

March 1, 2021 (11:00 am)
Venue: SKICC, Srinagar

1st CONVOCAATION 2021

Chief Guest
Professor D. P. Singh
Chairman, UGC

Vice Chancellor
Professor Mushtaq A. Siddiqi

Chancellor
Shri Manoj Sinha
Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor
UT of J&K

'Honouring our Students'

Islamic University of Science and Technology, Kashmir