

KASHMIR OBSERVER

Saturday 10 April | 26 Shaban | 1442 Hijri | Vol:24 | Issue: 84 | Pages:12 | Price: ₹3

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P3 CITY

NIFT SRINAGAR HOLDS MAIDEN CONVOCATION

National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) Srinagar Friday celebrated its first-ever Convocation at SKICC. The ceremony was held for its first batch of 31 students...

THINK

P7 POLITICAL COMPLACENCY

RISE IN INFECTIONS SHOULD BE BLAMED ON THE POLITICAL CLASS IN INDIA

Health officials need not look beyond Indian politicians campaigning among the crowds with not even a pretence of social distancing and masking to understand why...



P5 STATE

NIGHT CURFEW BEATS LOGIC, SAYS KASHMIR DOCTORS BODY

A day after the announcement of night curfew in Jammu and Kashmir, Doctors Association Kashmir (DAK) on Friday said the move won't stop the spread of Covid-19...



Widom Quote!
We won't have a society if we destroy the environment
—Margaret Mead

7 Militants Killed In Twin Gunfights In South Kashmir

AGUH Chief Among Slain Militants In Shopian, Tral: Police



File Photo

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: Four more militants, including Ansar Ghazwatul Hind's chief Imtiaz Ahmad Shah, were killed by government forces in twin encounters in south Kashmir's Shopian and Pulwama districts, taking the total number of militants dead

in the gunfights during the last 24 hours to seven, police said on Friday.

"Five militants have been killed in a Shopian operation, while two others were killed in the encounter at Nowbugh in Tral area of Pulwama district," a police official said. Earlier, the Kashmir Zone Police had said that efforts were

SSPs To Brief Media About Encounters: IGP

AGENCIES

Inspector General of Police (IGP) Kashmir range Vijay Kumar Friday said that district SSPs have been directed to brief media men about encounter updates and that the media persons are once again advised not to inch closer to gunfight sites as that poses threat to their lives. The IGP said that if media persons go closer to the operation sites, the same may disturb the men involved in anti-militancy operations and the live coverages of encounters may trigger law and order situation in other areas. Replying to a query at PCR Srinagar whether injury to the three civilians can be reported by the media, the IGP said: "I reiterate that no live

J&K Reports 808 New Covid Cases, Four Deaths



File Photo

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir on Friday recorded 808 new COVID-19 cases, which

took the tally to 1,36,470, while four deaths in the past 24 hours pushed the toll to 2,023 in the union territory, officials said. Out of the fresh cases,

Omar Tests Positive 2 Days After Vaccine

Two days after receiving the first dose of the Covid-19 vaccine, National Conference leader and former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Omar Abdullah Friday tested positive for the deadly virus. "For a year I did my

Dulloo Calls For Increasing RT-PCR Tests

amid a surge in COVID-19 cases over the past two weeks, the Jammu and Kashmir administration on Friday assessed the preparations and called for increasing the rate of RT-PCR tests. Financial Commissioner, Health and Medical Education, Atal Dulloo chaired a meeting with senior officers of the

NEWS DIGEST

Lt Gen Joshi Reviews Security Situation

SRINAGAR: The Northern Army Commander, Lt Gen YK Joshi visited forward posts on the Line of Control (LoC) and in the hinterland to review the overall security scenario in the Kashmir Valley. According to an army spokesperson, Joshi was accompanied by the Chinara Corps Commander, Lt Gen DP Pandey visited formations along the LoC in forward areas of district Kupwara and Rashtriya Rifles conducting Counter militancy

Man Held After Grenade Recovered

JAMMU: A 35-year-old man was arrested on Friday after a hand grenade was recovered from his house in Doda district of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said. Safdar Ali, who is a brother of Pakistan-based militant Mohammad Amin, has been arrested, they said. He is a labourer by profession and a resident of Kathawa village of the district's Thathri area, the officials said.

PDD Lineman Dies Of Electric Shock

SRINAGAR: A lineman of Power Development Department (PDD) was electrocuted to death in Kandhama village of central Kashmir's Budgam district on Friday. Fayaz Ahmad Masoodi, a resident of Khoor-Sharabad Pattan, was repairing an electric HT line at Kandhama Magam on Friday afternoon when he came in contact with a HT live wire and received an electric shock, an official said. He said that the lineman was shifted to SDH Magam, where he

4 Gamblers Held In Ganderbal: Police

SRINAGAR: Police on Friday claimed to have arrested four gamblers in a raid in Lati Gund Roshan area of Ganderbal district. Acting on an input, a team from police post Shadipora carried out a raid in Lati Gund Roshan area and apprehended four gamblers from the spot, a police spokesperson said. He said besides playing cards, an amount of Rs 4400 was also seized from their possession.

Body Found From Rail Track In Kathua

JAMMU: A 35-year-old man was found dead on a railway track in Kathua district of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said on Friday. The body was recovered near Lakhampur rail track on Thursday night and was subsequently shifted to a government medical college hospital in Kathua for identification and postmortem, the officials said. They said the man was believed to have

Soldier Shot Dead In Bijbehara

Press Trust Of India

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Panels Formed To Review Powers Of Div Coms, DCs

Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor-led dispensation has sanctioned for the constitution of a committee with regard to district staffing of various Departments for effective governance in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

The Committee, as per an order, is to be headed by Commissioner/Secretary to the Government, General Administration Department as Chairman and Commissioner/Secretary to the Government,

Department; Divisional Commissioner/Secretary to the Government, Department of Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs; Secretary to the Government, Information Technology Department; Divisional Commissioner, Jammu; Secretary, Department of Law, Justice & Parliamentary Affairs; Representative of Principal Secretary to the Government, Revenue Department as members. The committee is

J&K Integral Part Of India, Says VP Naidu

Asserts Delhi Does Not Need Unsolicited Advice



Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India, and the country is capable of solving its own problems, Vice President M

Venkaiah Naidu said here Friday, asking other nations to "confine themselves to their domestic problems" rather than giving unsolicited advice to India. On his first

HC Tells Mehbooba

'Avail Remedy For Passport'

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir High Court on Friday asked Mehbooba Mufti to avail remedy under law even as it disposed of the former Chief Minister of erstwhile state of J&K and PDP President's plea challenging dismissal of her petition for passport last week. Mehbooba had challenged dismissal of her plea last week by high court's single bench after Addl. Director

US Intelligence Report Sets Off Alarm

'India, Pak May Stumble Into Large-Scale War'

Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR: In a sensational disclosure, a United States intelligence report has warned about the possibility of an unintentional large-scale war between India and Pakistan though none of the two nuclear countries would want so.

"India and Pakistan may stumble into a large-scale war neither side wants, especially following a terrorist attack that the Indian government judges to be significant,"



says the Global Trends report, which is produced every four years by the US government's

National Intelligence Council. The report was released in Washington on Wednesday and takes a longer-term, strategic look, trying to peer 20 years ahead to examine how current changes could transform the world of the future.

A similar report was released by the Obama administration in 2017, highlighting the risk of a pandemic and the vast economic disruption it could cause — a prescient prediction in hindsight. The ability of some

Highway Open For Two-Way Traffic Today

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Authorities on Friday announced two-way traffic on Jammu-Srinagar highway, the only surface link connecting

Kashmir Valley with the outside world, tomorrow.

"Subject to fair weather and better road condition, LMVs (Passenger) shall be allowed from both sides on Jammu-Srinagar highway viz

Mercury Dips In Gulmarg, Pahalgam

With dry weather predicted for now, the minimum temperature fell across Kashmir Valley with Gulmarg, the world famous skiing resort, recording minus 2.5 degree Celsius, officials said on Friday. A meteorological

'He Stabbed Me Like A Bollywood Villain': Kashmir's Dagger Account

AUQIB JAVEED

In ward number 18 of Srinagar's Shri Maharaja Hari Singh Hospital (SMHS), a youth lying on a hospital stretcher — bandaged and bloodied — still wonders how he's alive.

"Miracle it was," he told Kashmir Observer in a quivering voice. "The attacker looked from a gang the way he stabbed me."

The injured youth is Najmu Sakib Dar of Chinkral Mohalla Habba Kadal, Srinagar.

He was stabbed with a dagger over a dozen times by another youth inside his home on the evening of 5 April, 2021.

"The attacker ensured that I would

be dead," the knifed person said.

On Monday, Dar was alone at his home when a person known to him allegedly trespassed his house and stabbed him from left, right and centre, in a vengeful huff to settle the "personal grudge".

Dar was rushed to SMHS by his neighbours after hearing the hue and cry. He's under medical observation in the hospital and is stable, but unable to move, breathe, and eat properly.

"I've received over 60 stitches on my different body parts," he said. "The dagger was nearer to my lungs. It's Allah's mercy that I'm still alive!"

The attack came a week after two persons were stabbed by a group

of persons in Babademb locality of Srinagar's Fateh Kadal on March 28.

The injured were identified as Shafat Ahmad Sofi (35), son of Bashir Ahmad Sofi, a resident of Batamloo and Danish Nazir, son of Nazir Ahmad, a resident of Bemina.

The condition of both the injured is said to be stable. Similarly, on 12 January this year, the entire city was shocked after a boy was stabbed to death and another was injured near Dastgeer Sahib shrine (RA) at Khanyar area of Srinagar.

The slain was identified as Ziyaan Chisti, son of Mohammed Ashraf Chisti, resident of Rainawari, Srinagar. While the injured

accompanying him was identified as Faizan Fida Bhat, son of Fida Ahmad Bhat, a resident of Ellahi Bagh area of Srinagar.

The police investigation in the case revealed that the murder was carried out for the sake of a small amount of money, which the "accused" owed to the slain youth.

Old Srinagar residents allege that a few "gangs" carry out these piercing attacks to settle personal scores.

"Most of the people are druggies and roam around the city in jeep brandishing hockey sticks and sometimes knives," said Mohammad Irfan, a resident of Khanyar. "None dares to tell them anything." More On P10

