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P3 CITY

FREQUENT POWER OUTAGES IN SRINAGAR, IRK RESIDENTS

The Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCL) has failed to adhere to the power schedule even in the holy month of Ramadan, leaving the residents across Srinagar...

THINK

FASTING AND HEALTH IN RAMADAN

Ramadan is a month of self-regulation and self-training. Muslims fast in accordance with our religious requirements, but there are medical benefits as well. Generally, fasting has been used by patients for weight...



P5 STATE

PUBLIC SERVICE DEPARTMENTS SHOULD FOCUS ON EFFICIENT SERVICES: ADV BHATNAGAR

Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar Thursday chaired a meeting to review the Summer...



Quote!
Humour is mankind's greatest blessing
—Mark Twain

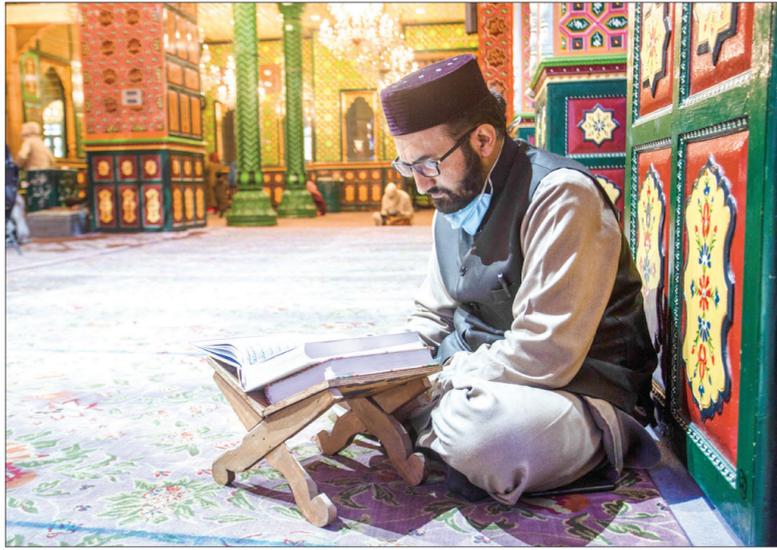
Govt Defers Durbar Move Over Covid-19 Surge

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir government on Thursday deferred the biannual darbar move to Srinagar saying that the civil secretariat, which is the seat of the Union Territory administration, shall function both in Srinagar and Jammu cities.

As part of the biannual darbar move and the civil secretariat's shift, other move offices and the Raj Bhavan were scheduled to close in Jammu on April 30 to May 1 and set to begin functioning in the summer capital from May 10.

The practice of darbar move - under which the administration functions in Jammu during six months of winter and in Srinagar during summer -



A man recites holy Quran inside the shrine of Sufi saint Hazrat Sheikh Syed Abdul Qadir Jeelani (RA) in Khanyar locality of the Old City on Thursday. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

Active Corona Cases In J&K Cross 10,000 Mark

1141 More Test Positive, Four More Die

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir on Thursday recorded 1,141 new coronavirus infections that pushed the number of active cases in the union territory past the 10,000-mark for the first time this year, officials said.

With the fresh cases, Jammu and Kashmir's cumulative tally has risen to 1,42,877. The death toll climbed to 2,046 with four new

fatalities, they said.

Of the fresh cases, 707 were reported from the Kashmir division and 434 from the Jammu division.

The officials said Srinagar district recorded the highest number of fresh cases at 418, including 71 travellers, followed by 215 in Jammu and 136 in Baramulla.

The number of active cases in Jammu and Kashmir stands at 10,040 while 13,0971 patients

SCHOOLS, COACHING CENTRES CLOSED TILL APRIL 30

As coronavirus cases show no sign of decline, the Jammu and Kashmir government on Thursday ordered closure of all coaching centres in the Union Territory besides extending closure of all schools till April 30. "All schools in J&K shall continue to remain

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT ALL COACHING and tuition centers imparting in-person teaching to Students shall remain closed in the entire J&K till 30.04.2021."

Police Files Case Over Hartal Call

Fake Tweet Claimed Geelani Had Called For A Shutdown: Police

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: Police in Budgam district of Jammu and Kashmir have registered a case under Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) against unidentified people for posting false information about veteran separatist leader Syed Ali Shah Geelani on social media, an official said on Thursday.

A twitter account, claiming to be the official handle of Geelani,

posted a press release allegedly issued by the separatist leader wherein he purportedly called for a general shutdown against what he alleged as "killing of children and desecration of religious places".

The press release, allegedly signed by Geelani, was referring to the killing of 12 militants in four encounters since last Friday. One of the encounters took place inside a mosque which was extensively damaged during the operation.

"According to family sources of SAS Geelani, the tweet is fake and issued by someone from Pakistan. Police is taking action against

India, Pak Held Secret Talks On Kashmir: Report

Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR: Before a surprise ceasefire announcement by India and Pakistan on February 25, the top intelligence officers from the two nuclear countries held secret talks in Dubai in January in a new effort to calm tensions over Kashmir, the Reuters news agency reported.

Quoting two unnamed people with close knowledge of the matter, the report said that officials from India's Research and Analysis Wing, the external spy agency and Pakistan's



Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) travelled to Dubai for a meeting facilitated by the United Arab Emirates government. "There is a lot that can still go wrong, it is fraught," one of the

people in New Delhi told Reuters. "That is why nobody is talking it up in public, we don't even have a name for this, it's not a peace process. You can call it a re-engagement," one of them said.

Both countries have reasons to seek a rapprochement.

The report also said that the Indian foreign ministry did not respond to a request for comment. Pakistan's military, which controls the ISI, also did not respond.

"There is a recognition there will be attacks inside Kashmir, there has been

UAE HELPED DE-ESCALATE TENSIONS: ENVOY

The United Arab Emirates played a role in bringing down the tension between India and Pakistan and getting their bilateral ties back to a "healthy functional relationship", Emirati ambassador to the US Yousef al-Otaiba has said. "They might not sort of become best friends but at least we want to get it to a level where it's functional, where it's operational, where they are speaking to each other," al-Otaiba said during a virtual discussion with Stanford University's Hoover Institution on Wednesday. India and Pakistan in a surprise announcement said on February 25 that they have agreed to strictly observe all agreements on ceasefire along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir and other sectors. Al-Otaiba himself brought up the issue while responding to a question, acknowledging his country's role in "bringing Kashmir

RE-REGISTRATION OF NON-J&K VEHICLES

Court Lists Case For Next Hearing On April 19

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir High Court Thursday adjourned the case of re-registration of non-JK vehicles and listed it for the next hearing on April 19.

The Jammu and Kashmir High Court had sought the response of the Government by 15 April over the matter after the case was heard on 7 April.

The circular was challenged in the Jammu and Kashmir High Court by Petitioner Advocate Zahoor Bhat through his council questioning the legal sanctity of the circular issued by RTO Kashmir.

While hearing the matter earlier on April 7, the single bench court of Justice Ali Mohammed Magray had asked, if RTO was the authority to seek the re-registration of non-JK registered

Mercury Plummets As Rain Lashes Kashmir

'Erratic' Weather To Continue Till weekend: Sonam Lotus



Agencies

SRINAGAR: Intermittent rains lashed Kashmir Valley and

parts of Jammu division on Thursday bringing down mercury, even as the local meteorological

Mughal Road Closed Despite Snow Clearance

Despite the snow clearance, the historic Mughal road, connecting south Kashmir's Shopian district with Poonch, continues to remain closed for traffic movement. Officials within the mechanical department said that the snow clearance work which was started in the month of March has been completed and traffic could be restored on the road. People from

NIA Arrests School Teacher Over Militancy Links

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Thursday arrested a school teacher for his alleged involvement in recruiting young boys for Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) in north Kashmir's Bandipora district.

Altaf Ahmad Rather, a resident of Jammu and Kashmir's Bandipora district, was wanted in a case registered in West Bengal last year following the arrest of a woman, Tania Parveen, for her association with the group, a spokesman of the NIA said.

Investigation has revealed that Rather is a school teacher in Bandipora and was a sympathiser of the LeT. Parveen had come in contact with him over social media platforms and he was instrumental in introducing her to LeT members based in Pakistan, in pursuance of a conspiracy to radicalise, motivate and recruit youths for violent Jihad (holy war) on India, he said.

The spokesman said Parveen was arrested by the West Bengal Police last year for her association with the LeT.

An FIR was registered against her at the Badurai police station in West Bengal's North 24 Parganas district under various sections of the Indian Penal Code, the Unlawful Activities (Prevention)

Govt Transfers 19 Police Officers

Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir government on Thursday ordered transfer and postings of at least 19 police officers in the Union Territory.

According to the order issued by the Home department, Atul Kumar Goel (IPS), DIG, South Kashmir Range, has been transferred and posted as DIG, Jammu-Samba-Kathua Range, against an available vacancy, relieving Vivek Gupta (IPS) of the additional charge. Sujit Kumar (IPS), DIG, Udhampur-Reasi

Recording Of Mehbooba's Mother's Statement By ED Deferred

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: The recording of PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti's mother Gulshan Nazir's statement by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) has been deferred due to Ramadan and the prevailing COVID-19 situation, officials said on Thursday.

The ED was conveyed about the same through an informal channel by Nazir, they said and added that recording of her statement is now expected to take place after a few weeks. Nazir, in her seventies, was supposed to appear before the agency at its office here on



Thursday in a case related to money laundering. The agency would fix the next date of hearing after a few weeks, the officials said. Mehbooba, 61, was also questioned in

Woman's Death During 'Night Raid' Sparks Protest

Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR: Protests broke out Thursday in Habak area of this capital city after a woman died of heart attack allegedly after government forces carried out a nocturnal raid at her house, even as the police said they were looking into the matter.

According to the reports, scores of people, including women and children hit the streets in Mirakshah colony in Habak on Thursday morning and staged a protest over the death of an elderly woman allegedly after government forces

raided her house and tried to arrest her son.

The slogan shouting protesters, including the family of the deceased woman, demanded stern action against police personnel who were part of it.

"I along with my mother used to sleep in a particular room. There was some knocking sound outside our residence and I informed my mother accordingly. I opened the door and saw policemen. They pushed me aside and entered inside," daughter of the woman told reporters at the spot. "Then they asked for my brother and told

NEWS DIGEST

CRPF Officer Falls From Building, Dies

SRINAGAR: An Assistant sub-inspector of paramilitary CRPF died after he fell from a two-storied building in Reshipora area of south Kashmir's Shopian district on Thursday. 48-year-old ASI, Shyam Singh son of late Dayal Singh, who was posted at 178 battalion CRPF Reshipora Shopain fell down from a two-storied building in the wee hours on Thursday, a police official said. The injured ASI, he said, was shifted to SKIMS Soura where

Army Repatriates Pak Resident

JAMMU: A man, who had inadvertently crossed the Line of Control into India, was on Thursday sent back to Pakistan-controlled Kashmir (PcK) on humanitarian grounds, officials said. The Indian army handed over Ghulam Qadir to authorities in PcK at the Poonch-Rawalakote crossing point in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district.

ISJK Operative Held In Jammu: Police

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir police have claimed to have arrested an operative of Islamic State Jammu and Kashmir, a J&K-based militant outfit named after the Islamic State. The fresh arrest of the militant outfit's operative followed ten days after the apprehension of its top commander Malik Umair alias Abdullah from Jhajjar Kotli near here. Jammu zone Inspector General of Police Mukesh Singh

Govt Cancels Ongoing Class X Exams

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir administration on Thursday cancelled ongoing exams of J&K BOSE for remaining subjects of Class X and postponed class XII exams. "In view of rising cases of COVID19, Class X ongoing exams for remaining subjects has been cancelled and their promotion to class XI will be decided on the basis of their performance in subjects already undertaken in present exam and internal assessment," Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha's office said in a tweet as per GNS.

Searches Conducted Along IB In Jammu

JAMMU: The Border Security Force (BSF) and Jammu and Kashmir police on Thursday conducted a joint search operation along International Border (IB) in Phargwal sector area of Jammu district. Searches were conducted by joint teams of police and BSF after observing suspicious movement along border in Gadhkal area of Phargwal, officials said. "Search operation was called off in late noon hours while domination teams are still present in the area for area clearance," officials said—(KNO)