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CRIME

Security Alert Issued After Encounter in Kulgam, One Body Recovered





This is a bad news coming from Jammu and Kashmir. An encounter was carried out by Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) personnel in Kulgam, Jammu and Kashmir today. After the encounter, a dead body has been recovered from the site.

Following this incident, security forces have launched a search operation throughout the district. Armed personnel have established control at various points to check for potential threats and have appealed to the public to remain vigilant.

The local administration stated that a forensic investigation is underway to identify the deceased and further action will be taken once complete information is available. The public has been instructed to avoid unnecessary travel and follow police instructions.

— Ankit Parihar

Magnitude 5.1 earthquake strikes Afghanistan; tremors felt in Jammu and Kashmir

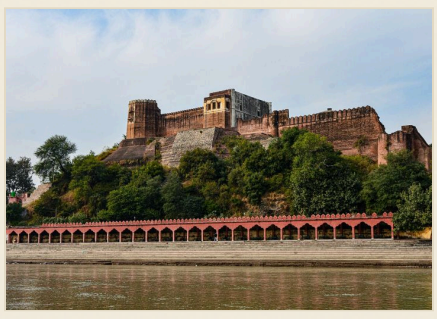
A magnitude 5.1 earthquake struck Afghanistan, registering on the Richter scale. Regional monitoring centers recorded the seismic event. Residents in parts of Jammu and Kashmir felt the tremors, but no reports of damage or casualties have been received so far.

CRPF Chief Reviews Security Setup After Attack in Kulgam

The Inspector General of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) visited Kulgam district in Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday following an attack. He met with regional officials and reviewed the intensified counter-terrorism operations in the area. The CRPF chief also visited the site of the attack and

LOCAL

J&K Police Organizes 'Run for Unity' in Jammu on Unity Day



Jammu, Jammu and Kashmir – On the occasion of Unity Day, the J&K Police organized a 'Run for Unity' in the city center, inviting residents, students, and local officials to participate. The event started from the police headquarters and continued along a short route on major roads, providing participants with an opportunity to interact and experience the police's public outreach initiative.

Police officials stated that the aim of the run was to send a message of national unity and to build trust between the police and the public. Senior officers said that such initiatives help reduce social gaps and foster a sense of shared responsibility for peace.

Spectators lining the route enthusiastically cheered the participants, reflecting the city's desire for unity. Organizers said the positive response indicates that people are ready to actively participate in community activities.

At the end of the run, a small cultural program was held by local artists, highlighting Jammu's cultural diversity and the people's shared aspirations.

Officials are planning to repeat similar community events in the future to sustain the wave of unity in the region.

DEFENCE

Congress Accuses Army Over Deaths in Kashmir, BJP Refutes



Following the deaths of two special police officers in Kishtwar, Jammu and Kashmir, the Congress party has called for a thorough investigation. Congress alleges that the officers were killed due to the negligence of military personnel engaged in an anti-militancy operation. The party has urged that justice be delivered to the families of the deceased SPOs. The BJP, however, has rejected these allegations, describing them as baseless attempts to tarnish the image of the security forces.

SARKARI YOJANA

J&K government grants Old Pension Scheme benefits to 33 employees



The Jammu and Kashmir government announced that 33 government employees will receive benefits under the Old Pension Scheme (OPS). According to a report by Kashmir Life, this move will grant pension rights to employees who were not covered under the new pension reforms.

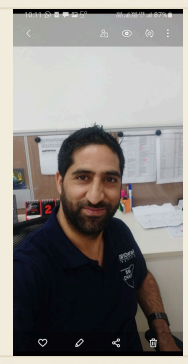
Eligible employees under the OPS will receive a fixed pension based on their last drawn salary and years of service, fulfilling the long-standing demand of several senior officials. The decision is seen as a step towards alleviating employees' long-term concerns regarding administrative security.

The announcement did not mention the specific departments of the 33 employees or the selection criteria, but officials stated that the selection was made in accordance with existing government guidelines. Implementation is expected to begin soon, with orders to be issued to the relevant departments.

Stakeholders have welcomed the move, viewing it as a step towards equal treatment for employees who retired before the new pension system. No clear indication has been given regarding the possibility of extending OPS benefits to additional employees in the future.

EDUCATION

Teacher suspended over death of minor student at Kupwara school, DSEK says



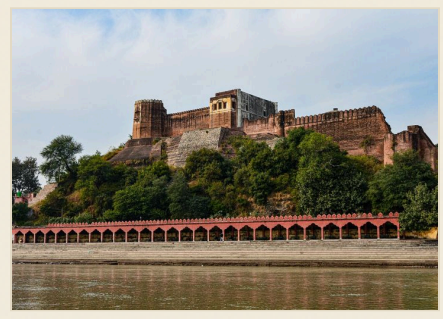
The Directorate of School Education Kashmir (DSEK) has suspended a teacher following the death of a minor student at a school in Kupwara district. The decision was announced immediately after the incident, highlighting the department's response to the tragedy. No additional information regarding the student's death or the teacher's identity has been made public yet. DSEK stated that the step was taken after an internal inquiry, but the findings of the investigation were not disclosed. The school and local community are expected to cooperate with the ongoing investigation.

This action reflects the education department's commitment to ensuring accountability in schools, particularly in the event of serious incidents such as the death of a child. Parents and residents are awaiting a detailed report on the causes.

The investigation is ongoing, and local law enforcement has been requested to provide any relevant information under their supervision.

CRIME

Jammu Police Disrupt Cheating Ring in JKSSB Exam, 14 Arrested



Jammu police recently exposed an organized cheating network targeting the Jammu and Kashmir Services Selection Board (JKSSB) recruitment examination. Officers conducted a raid at a location where suspects were preparing to use electronic assistance during the exam, thereby thwarting the scheme.

In the investigation, 14 individuals were taken into custody, found in possession of smartphones, smartwatches, and memory sticks that could have been used to transmit answers in real time. The seized items are undergoing further examination to determine any link to a larger cheating syndicate.

JKSSB conducts competitive examinations for various government posts, and any form of malpractice undermines the fairness of the selection process. Officials have stated that strict legal action will be taken against such acts.

Police have registered formal FIRs against all the arrested and handed the case over to the Cyber Crime Branch for further investigation. The inquiry continues to identify any additional accomplices.

FDA suspends five meat processing licenses in Jammu and Kashmir after 95 inspections



The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has announced the suspension of registrations for five meat processing units in Jammu and Kashmir. This step was taken following 95 recent inspections in the region, aimed at ensuring compliance with food safety standards.

Inspectors found multiple violations regarding hygiene, temperature control, and documentation, prompting the regulator to take corrective action. The suspended units will not be allowed to operate until they rectify the violations and receive approval from the FSSAI.

This measure demonstrates the agency's growing commitment to ensuring a safe meat supply in the region, where consumer trust in processed food products is becoming a major issue. Officials have also urged other processors to fully cooperate with upcoming inspections.

The FSSAI did not disclose the names of the affected businesses for confidentiality reasons but clarified that the suspension is temporary and will be reassessed after confirming corrective measures.

EDUCATION

School timings changed in Jammu and Kashmir due to cold weather



The Jammu and Kashmir Education Department has announced changes to the timetables for all schools from nursery to Class 12, as temperatures in the valley are currently dropping sharply. Officials stated that this step was taken to protect students and staff from the severe cold.

Under the new timetable, school operating hours will be adjusted to reduce the time children spend outdoors during the coldest parts of the day. The department said the change aims to maintain regular attendance and ensure health and safety.

The decision was based on weather data and feedback from school officials, who reported difficulties in conducting classes due to the extreme cold. Parents have been informed of the new timetable through official notices.

JKBOSE to release new textbooks for six classes from 2026-27



The Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education (JKBOSE) issued an official notice announcing the decision to update textbooks for six classes. This revision will be effective from the 2026-27 academic session. The board stated that this step is to align learning materials with the latest curriculum guidelines.

The board has not yet disclosed the specific subjects or classes, but clarified that the new books will replace current ones in all government-aided and recognized private schools. Schools have been instructed to purchase the new books and incorporate them into their teaching plans before the start of the next academic year.

JKBOSE appealed to school principals and headmasters to facilitate a smooth transition and to inform teachers and parents about the change. The board also indicated that it would monitor compliance and assist institutions with any logistical difficulties that may arise.

Education sector experts view this update as a positive step toward modernizing class resources, although they are awaiting further information about the changes in content and the distribution process.

DEFENCE

Security forces kill Lashkar-e-Taiba commander in Jammu and Kashmir



Security forces in Jammu and Kashmir killed a senior Lashkar-e-Taiba commander in an armed encounter, officials said. The encounter took place in a remote area where forces had launched a cordon and search operation based on intelligence inputs.

The commander's identity was confirmed from documents and weapons recovered after the firefight. No security personnel were injured, while small arms and explosive material were seized.

The Pakistan-based militant group has carried out several major attacks in India over the past two decades. The death of the senior commander is considered a significant blow to the group's operational capability in Kashmir.

The incident highlights the vigilance of Indian security agencies, particularly in light of upcoming elections and regional tensions.

Omar Abdullah attends royal wedding in Jammu



Former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah and his wife attended a royal wedding ceremony at Amar Mahal in Jammu. The event was a celebration of the marriage between the Dogra and Badal families. Further details about the bride and groom and their families were not immediately available.

JOBS & CAREER

J&K Finance Department Orders Review of Pay Fixation for Employees Appointed Since 2016



The Jammu and Kashmir Finance Department has ordered a comprehensive review of the pay fixation for all government employees appointed since January 2016. Departmental heads have been instructed to examine the pay structure, allowances, and any reinstatements that have come into effect since their appointments.

Officials stated that this step is aimed at ensuring parity with the latest Pay Commission recommendations and addressing potential discrepancies that have arisen in previous years. The department has asked concerned officers to submit detailed reports on individual cases within a stipulated timeframe.

The review may lead to pay revisions for a significant portion of the region's civil servants and other government institutions. No additional information has been provided regarding the implementation timeline.

EDUCATION

Kashmir School Timings to Change from November 17



The School Education Department (SED) has issued a directive stating that the timings for all schools in Kashmir will be changed from November 17. The new timetable will apply to both government and private schools, ensuring uniform start and end times across the region. Parents have been requested to adjust their daily schedules accordingly and ensure their children reach school at the new timings. The department has instructed school principals to update the timetables and inform staff of the changes. Regional education officers will monitor the smooth implementation of this change.

Fire at Jamia Masjid in Baramulla Injures Four



Four people were hospitalized with minor burns following a fire at Jamia Masjid in Baramulla, Jammu and Kashmir. Emergency services responded immediately to the incident and provided prompt medical assistance to the affected individuals. The injured were taken to a nearby hospital for further treatment. Officials are investigating the cause of the fire and assessing the damage to the mosque.

NATIONAL

Significant Progress on Delhi-Katra Expressway Packages in J&K



The Delhi-Katra Expressway project, a critical link connecting Delhi to the holy city of Katra in Jammu and Kashmir, is making significant progress. Four major packages of the project have achieved completion levels ranging from 66% to 94%. This progress symbolizes the collective efforts by officials to accelerate the construction of this vital infrastructure project. The Delhi-Katra Expressway is expected to significantly improve connectivity and boost economic development in the region.

DEFENCE

Killed Terrorist in J&K Was Sheltered by Lashkar-e-Taiba Commander, Investigation Reveals



Security forces in Jammu and Kashmir engaged in an encounter with a suspected terrorist, resulting in his death. Following the operation, a detailed investigation was launched to examine his background. The inquiry revealed that the killed terrorist had been sheltered by a Lashkar-e-Taiba commander several months before he was officially inducted into the group. This fact indicates the existence of prior support networks in the recruitment process. Officials have emphasized the need to dismantle such support structures and strengthen regional security in the future.

AIMSA Gives J&K Government November 18 Deadline to Improve PG Doctors' Salaries

The All India Medical Students' Association (AIMSA) has given the Jammu and Kashmir government until November 18 to act on its proposal to improve the salaries of postgraduate doctors. This deadline was set after several discussions with the Health Department, increasing pressure on the state to resolve pay-related concerns.

AIMSA stated that current salary levels are insufficient to meet the cost of living and professional responsibilities. The issue has been raised multiple times with the Health Department, but no concrete improvement has been announced yet.

By setting a clear deadline, AIMSA aims to compel the state administration to either announce a new pay structure or specify a timeline for implementation. This move is being closely watched by both medical trainees and senior doctors, who consider salary improvements essential for retaining talent in the healthcare system.

The Jammu and Kashmir government has not yet issued an official response to this deadline, leaving the medical community awaiting a response as November 18 approaches.

DEFENCE

Army fires on suspicious activity near border in Pehelgam, Jammu & Kashmir



The Indian Army stated that soldiers opened fire after observing suspicious activity near the Line of Control (LoC) in Pehelgam district, Jammu & Kashmir. The area is frequently prone to border tensions, prompting the military to use live ammunition to prevent a potential infiltration.

According to the Army's statement, the firing was intended to deter suspected individuals from advancing further into the Indian side. No official information regarding casualties has been released yet, and security forces from both sides are closely monitoring the situation.

The Daily Excelsior broke the story first but did not provide additional details regarding the identity of the suspicious individuals or the exact location. In such circumstances, standard military protocol involves an immediate response and ensuring border security.

Local officials have been placed on high alert, and a temporary security cordon has been established in the surrounding area for civilian safety. The incident highlights the ongoing instability along the LoC in Jammu & Kashmir.

The Army will provide further information regarding the full investigation of the incident and any subsequent actions.

Traffic regulated on Jammu & Kashmir highways; tanker ban imposed on NH-44



The Jammu & Kashmir administration has issued an order to regulate traffic on all state highways. This measure aims to manage increasing traffic volume and ensure safety on these routes.

Under the regulations, vehicles are permitted to enter the highways only after obtaining clearance from designated checkpoints, and transport companies are required to adhere to a specified schedule. Officials stated that this would reduce congestion and lower the likelihood of accidents.

Additionally, a ban has been imposed on tanker trucks on National Highway 44. The ban is effective immediately and is intended to mitigate potential risks associated with fuel transport on the busy route. Fuel distributors have been advised to use alternative routes to continue their supply operations.

Sports Minister inaugurates U-17 Girls' Cricket Tournament



The Union Sports Minister attended the inauguration ceremony of the U-17 Girls' Cricket Tournament. This national competition is designed to nurture young talent in women's cricket and provide a platform for aspiring players to showcase their abilities. The tournament is expected to attract a large number of participants from across India, who will compete for the prestigious title.

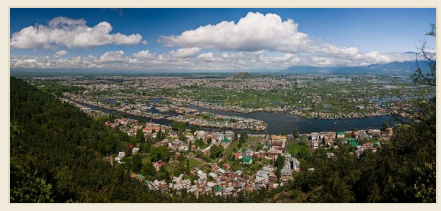
Tanveer Sadiq says PDP and BJP responsible for Jammu & Kashmir crisis



Political leader Tanveer Sadiq stated in an interview with The Daily Excelsior that both the PDP and BJP are responsible for the ongoing crisis in Jammu & Kashmir. While he did not cite specific actions, he emphasized that both parties have contributed to worsening the situation. This statement adds a new dimension to the ongoing political debate regarding the region's stability, with experts viewing such accusations as significant. No additional comments were received from the mentioned parties, and the report did not provide further information.

SCIENCE

Kashmir's groundwater quality lags behind Himachal and Uttarakhand, Himalayan study finds



A scientific survey covering the Himalayan region has highlighted disparities in groundwater quality among states. The assessment placed Kashmir at the lower end of quality standards, while Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand showed comparatively better results.

quality parameters at multiple sampling sites in each state. The results indicate that Kashmir's aquifers contain higher levels of pollutants or mineral imbalances compared to the neighboring hill states.

The report emphasized the need for targeted improvements and strict monitoring to preserve the purity of water sources in the Kashmir Valley and enhance agricultural usage.

State authorities have been urged to review current water management practices and invest in infrastructure to improve water purity.

The study confirms that localized policies are required to address regional variations in water quality, rather than a one-size-fits-all solution.

CRIME

NIA Launches Probe into Overground Operatives Network Linked to Pakistan-Based Terrorist Organizations in Jammu & Kashmir



The National Investigation Agency (NIA) announced that it will investigate a module of active overground operatives in Jammu & Kashmir, who are reportedly linked to Pakistan-based terrorist organizations. The agency stated that this group provides logistical and recruitment support to extremist elements in the region.

militants by offering safe houses, financial aid, and communication channels, while refraining from direct armed action. Such support plays a crucial role in sustaining extremism, prompting the NIA to subject this network to a comprehensive inquiry.

The move comes amid escalating security concerns in the federal territory, where vigilance has heightened over cross-border infiltration and ideological dissemination. The NIA said it will collaborate with the Jammu & Kashmir Police and other intelligence agencies to expose the network's connections and gather evidence.

No arrests have been made to date, and the investigation remains in its early stages. The agency has not disclosed the names of individuals involved due to the operation's sensitivity.

Authorities stated that the investigation aims to dismantle any support structure, thereby safeguarding national security from external threats.