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Withdraw FIRs lodged against Army officers: JKNPP

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BJP core group meet held at PM Modi's residence, Kashmir issue, attack on jawans discussed

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Snowy brings laurels to State

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"The difference between stupidity and genius is that genius has its limits...."

WEATHER JAMMU

TEMPERATURE
MAX : 41.2 °C
MIN : 24.1 °C

SUNSET : 7:05 pm Today
SUNRISE : 5:56 am Tomorrow

In BRIEF

JOB AVENUE on Page-9

Colleges to remain shut for 2 more days

SRINAGAR: Colleges in Kashmir will remain closed for two more days from tomorrow, the government ordered today, extending the two-day shutdown of these educational institutions in the wake of student protests on Monday. "According to the Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, teaching work in all colleges of Kashmir division

Govt transfers four KAS officers

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Government today transferred four KAS Officers in an order issued here. As per order issued by the Jammu and Kashmir, General Administration Department, G S Chib, KAS, Director, Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Jammu, is transferred and posted as Secretary in the

43 killed as bus falls into river

SHIMLA: Forty-three passengers were killed when a private bus plunged into River Tons in remote Nerwa area of Shimla district today. The passengers were on their way from Vikasnagar in Uttarakhand to Tuni and the accident took place on the Uttarakhand-Himachal border in Himachal territory, Deputy Commissioner Shimla,

Man injured in poll violence dies

SRINAGAR: A 22-year-old man, who was injured during clashes between protestors and security forces on polling day in Srinagar Lok Sabha constituency, succumbed to injuries today. With his death, the toll in the bypoll violence has climbed to nine. Muzaffar Ahmad Mir, a resident of Kulgam district in south Kashmir, succumbed to injuries

Army discusses terrorism in J&K with Royal Oman Defence forces

SRINAGAR: The Indian Army personnel and Royal Oman Defence Forces today discussed matters of mutual interest, including externally sponsored terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir. A delegation from Sultanate of Oman visited Northern Command today. The delegation was led by Mohamed Bin Nasser Al Rasby,



Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti addressing the gathering in Jammu on Wednesday. Aman

My Govt's aim is to connect hearts and minds of people of all the regions: CM

GJ REPORT
JAMMU, APR 19: Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Mehbooba Mufti today said that the aim of her government is to connect hearts and minds of people of all the three regions. "My Government has embarked on an ambitious connectivity plan for the State but the main objective is to connect their hearts and minds so that the people of one region feel the pain of people of other region and one area shares its joys and

Visits Iqra, enquires about her health

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti today visited SMHS hospital Srinagar who was injured about the condition of Iqra, a student of BCom 1st Year of Nawa Kadal College Srinagar who was injured during the student protests on Monday. The Chief Minister directed the hospital administration to

sorrows with the other area," Mufti said while addressing the gathering after inaugurating 300 metre pre stressed concrete double lane bridge over Nikki Tawi here constructed by AK Engineers & Contractors Pvt. Ltd. The Chief Minister said bridges not only connect areas but also bring people closer to each other in terms of cultures, emotions and needs. Complimenting the citizens of Jammu for having

Jammu sizzles at 41.2 Degrees

GJ REPORT
JAMMU, APR 19: There is no respite from the heat wave in this winter capital of the state as today it was season's hottest day with maximum temperature recorded 41.2 degree Celsius. The maximum temperature was today recorded 41.2 degree Celsius and the minimum was 24.1 degree Celsius. "The temperature in the past four days fluctuated between 34 degrees to 38 degrees (maximum) and 20 degrees to 23 degrees (minimum)," a weather man here said. Yesterday also it was the hottest day with maximum temperature 39.7 degrees and minimum 23.2 degrees while earlier it was maximum temperature recorded was 39.2 degree Celsius. On April 12, Jammu also recorded season's maximum with 35.1 degree Celsius. The weatherman however, predicted that the tomorrow sky will be partly cloudy and Maximum and Minimum temperatures will be around 39 °C and 25 °C respectively.

No red beacons on VVIP' vehicles from May 1

NEW DELHI, APR 19: In what could signify an end to the VVIP culture in India, no high dignitaries, including the President and the Prime Minister will be allowed to have red beacon on their vehicles from May 1, Finance Minister Arun Jaitley said today. Making the announcement at a press conference, Jaitley said, "The Prime Minister informed the Cabinet that some amendments to the Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 were being made". These amendments will come into effect from May 1. Under rule 108(I)(II) of the act, the state governments and the Central Government can name any dignitaries who can have red, white and blue beacons on their vehicles. The Centre has decided to remove this rule altogether. This means that henceforth the Centre and the State governments cannot nominate any dignitary to carry red beacon on their vehicle from May 1.

Beacon culture should have gone long ago: PM

Every Indian is a VIP and the culture of beacon should have gone long ago, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said tonight, hours after deciding to bar their use by the VVIPs, including the President, the Prime Minister and the Chief Ministers. "These symbols are out of touch with the spirit of new India," Modi said. He was responding to a tweet by a follower who described as "historic" the decision to prohibit all vehicles, except emergency vehicles like ambulances and fire brigade, from using the beacon lights from May 1. The vehicles with beacon lights, which are seen as a symbol of VIP culture, "have no place in a democratic country", the Government said after the decision was taken at a Cabinet meeting. Contd. on P-4 Col 1

BSF trooper who circulated video of 'bad food' dismissed

JAMMU, APR 19: A BSF jawan was dismissed today for circulating the poor food quality video on social media said that he is following footsteps of freedom fighter Bhagat Singh and will continue his fight. Constable Tej Bahadur Yadav of 29 Battalion BSF, attached with 80 Bn BSF in Samba district of Jammu region was today dismissed from service by the Summary Security Force Court, official spokesman here said. "I am not scared. I am on Bhagat Singh's path," Yadav told reporters at Samba soon after his dismissal. He said, "I am son of a farmer. Will never bow down to any pressure and continue my fight against such hidden facts."



The jawan further said, "I am happy that after the video went viral, 70 percent of food quality has improved." "Not officers but jawans have to remain on forefront along the border and he should get all facilities," he added. The jawan however, expressed resentment for not being produced before SSFC, adding, "I was not allowed to keep my viewpoint before

the Court. My mobiles were seized. But, no regrets, I will keep fighting." Meanwhile BSF Spokesman further said that the SSFC was conducted against him for various charges under provision of BSF Act and Rules. The spokesman said that an act pre judicial to good order and discipline of the force in which he made false allegations on social media regarding quality of food and did not adhere to formal grievance redressal mechanism of the force. He further added that he neglected to obey general orders of the force in which he carried two mobile phones while on operational duty against

Pakistan yet again violates truce agreement on LoC

GJ REPORT
JAMMU, APR 19: In yet another incident of ceasefire violation, Pakistan today violated the truce agreement and shelled forward Indian Posts along the Line of Control in Poonch district of Jammu and Kashmir. "Pakistani Army initiated indiscriminate firing of small arms, automatics and mortars today at 1115 hours on Indian Army posts along the Line of Control in Poonch sector," defence spokesman here today said. He said that the Indian Army posts strongly and effectively retaliated while the firing stopped at around 1330 hours. On April 17, hundreds of border dwellers migrated to safer locations and camps as Pakistani Army shelled forward posts and villages in Nowshera Sector of Rajouri district. On April 8, Pakistani troops violated the ceasefire along the LoC in Rajouri district of Jammu and Kashmir by resorting to firing on forward posts.



STANDING TALL: A view of General Zorawar Singh rotary reminds Jammu people of sacrifice of the great warrior. Aman

By Poll: EC full bench discusses issue with Home Secy

NEW DELHI, APR 19: The Election Commission and the Home Ministry today discussed measures to ensure a violence-free bypoll to the Anantnag Lok Sabha seat like cutting down on the number of polling stations for better security. Chief Election Commissioner Nasim Zaidi and his two Election Commissioners held talks with Union Home Secretary Rajiv

Hold talks with J&K stakeholders: Oppn

SRINAGAR: A joint delegation led by J&K Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) President G A Mir today met President of India Pranab Mukherjee at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi and apprised him of the overall situation prevailed in the valley. The delegation gave a detailed presentation to President about overall socio

Mehrishi, who assured them of providing adequate paramilitary forces for the bypoll to be held on May 25, official sources said. The assurance from the Union Home Secretary assumes significance as there were voices within the Mehbooba Mufti-led coalition government in Jammu and Kashmir for postponing the bypoll, citing law-and-order

Hold Red Cross events in all districts: Guv

GJ REPORT
JAMMU, APR 19: Governor N N Vohra, President, Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS), J&K today chaired the 174th meeting of State Managing Committee (SMC) of IRCS, J&K, Branch here at the Raj Bhawan. Bali Bhagat, Minister for Health and Medical Education, participated in the meeting. Governor stressed the need for organising Red Cross Melas in each District, especially in Ladakh and other tourist places in Kashmir, for generating funds for IRCS. It was also decided to install donation boxes at Airports, Railway Stations and Hotels to



Governor N N Vohra chairing a meeting of IRCS at Raj Bhawan Jammu on Wednesday. GJ Photo

collect donations for the noble cause of the IRCS and Chief Secretary was asked to issue instructions regarding voluntary contributions from the Government employees. Governor reviewed the activities carried out by the Society during the

last one year and stressed the importance of imparting for First-Aid Training programmes on an extensive scale, particularly for commercial drivers and Police recruits. He directed Chief Secretary to make the

First Aid Training compulsory for the issuance of driving licences to commercial drivers and ADGP, Police Headquarters, was directed to institutionalize such training programmes for Police recruits. Contd. on P-4 Col 2

'Saare Jahan Se Achha' is the best slogan, says astronaut Rakesh

GJ REPORT
JAMMU, APR 19: Country's first astronaut to enter space Rakesh Sharma today said that 'Saare Jahan Se Achha' is the best slogan in the World. "There is no comparison to 'Saare Jahan Se Achha' and it is the best slogan in the World," Wing Commander (retd) Contd. on P-4 Col 2

Hoteliers in isolation as Chenani-Nashri tunnel cuts off Patnitop tourist spot

BY VISHAL BHARTI
PATNITOP, JAMMU, APR 19
The South Asia's longest Chenani-Nashri road tunnel inaugurated recently has brought Kashmir Valley closer by few kilometres to the rest of the world but left hoteliers in 'isolation' as it has partially cut off Patnitop tourist spot situated in Udhampur district of Jammu and Kashmir. Chenani-Nashri road tunnel was inaugurated by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi on

April 2. The opening of tunnel relieved many especially the truckers, taxi and bus operators, who used to get stuck up on the highway either due to landslide or heavy snowfall in winter but in the bargain, left the hoteliers at Patnitop dejected as it hampered the hospitality industry. Patnitop is a hilltop tourist location in Udhampur district on Jammu-Srinagar National Highway, 112 km from Jammu. Situated on a plateau in the Contd. on P-4 Col 2