

Curfew enforced after 5 hours, Army stages flag march

**Miscreants rule the roost, free for all in Kishtwar;
2 killed, 63 injured, over 100 shops burnt, damaged**

Sanjeev Pargal

JAMMU, Aug 9: An indefinite curfew was clamped and Army called out in Kishtwar town and surrounding areas this afternoon after large scale incidents of arson, looting and violence were reported during the day in which two civilians were killed and 63 others were injured, four of them seriously as a free for all situation prevailed for several hours due to complete collapse of civil and police administration, which gave the miscreants a field day, who indulged in open vandalism razing shops, vehicles and various other commercial establishments to ground.

Twelve bore guns, petrol bottles, lathis and all other available material was used by the mob to set on fire shops, buses, petrol tankers, trucks, cars and other commercial establishments till 7 pm when Army formally moved and curfew was strictly imposed nearly five hours after it was announced.

***Govt appoints Div Com as Inquiry Officer**



Vandalism: A market razed to ground by the miscreants in Kishtwar town on Friday. Cops watching the scene helplessly. (More pics on page 3 and 4).

Fear psychosis prevailed among the minorities, which could be well gauged from the DC, SSP shifted

As a damage control measure, the Government tonight attached Deputy Commissioner, Kishtwar Choudhary Mohammad Saleem and SSP Kishtwar Sunil Gupta after large scale violence rocked Kishtwar town today.

Basir Khan, Director Panchayats in Rural Development Department has been posted as new DC Kishtwar while Sanjay Kotwal has been posted as SSP Kishtwar.

Mr Saleem and Mr Gupta have been asked to report to General Administration Department (GAD) and Police Headquarters respectively.

The Government has also announced Rs 5 lakh ex-gratia in favour of the family of Arvind Raj Bhagat, who was killed in the mob firing.

fact that the injured civilians of the community were not admitted in the District Hospital, (Contd on page 4 Col 5)

BJP, VHP, others call for Jammu bandh today

Massive protests across Jammu against Kishtwar violence

Avtar Bhat

JAMMU, Aug 9: The Kishtwar violence today evoked wide spread protests all over the Jammu with people taking to streets and holding protest demonstrations

Soon after the news of Kishtwar episode spread, the people came to streets in the city and the Old city observed a complete shut down in protest against the violence and attack on minorities in Kishtwar.

The BJP activists led by

said that it has received full support from Chamber of Commerce and Industries, Bar Association, Beopar Mandal, transporters, social and religious organizations.

Schools, colleges closed

The Government has ordered closure of all educational institutions in Jammu region tomorrow in view of Jammu bandh call given by BJP and other organizations in protest against today's Kishtwar violence.

The decision to close the educational institutions including Government and private was taken by the Divisional administration here, today to avert any untoward incident during the bandh call tomorrow.

An official handout issued later said that all schools and colleges will remain closed in Jammu region tomorrow in view of bandh call.



Activists of various organisations protesting at Kachi Chawni against Kishtwar violence on Friday. -Excelsior/Rakesh

and road blockades all over the region.

Showing its serious concern over Kishtwar violence, the BJP gave a call for bandh in Jammu region tomorrow, which was endorsed by various other organizations also.

Party president, Jugal Kishore Sharma took out a protest march in the city here and sat on dharna in Kachhi Chawni to register their protest against the communal violence in Kishtwar.

BJP, while giving the Jammu region bandh call for tomorrow

Expressing concern over communal clashes in Kishtwar town of Jammu and Kashmir, BJP today sought Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh's intervention to ensure security for the minority community in the State.

BJP President Rajnath Singh talked to the Prime Minister over telephone regarding the outbreak of violent clashes in Kishtwar district and demanded enhanced security in the area to bring the situation under control.

"The Prime Minister assured me that the situation would be quickly brought under control as the Army has been called out in Kishtwar," Rajnath Singh said on twitter.

Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah also called (Contd on page 4 Col 3)

Rajnath speaks to PM, Sushma to Omar, Soz to Antony

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India, China troops exchange beer, sweets

NEW DELHI, Aug 9:

Indian and Chinese troops had a face-off in Sikkim earlier this week which, however, ended in a friendly exchange of beer and rasgullas.

The face-off happened near the Tangkar La pass at the height of over 16,000 feet in eastern Sikkim after a Chinese patrol entered into territory claimed by India, sources told here.

The Chinese patrol, which was travelling in two light vehicles, was monitored by the Indian team comprising a young Lieutenant (Contd on page 4 Col 5)

Delhi-Lahore bus stopped

AMRITSAR, Aug 9:

Youth Congress activists today stopped a Lahore-bound bus from Delhi near Chehertha, 20 km from the Attari border, in protest against the killings of five Indian soldiers by Pakistani troops along the Loc in Jammu and Kashmir.

Around 100 protesters, headed by their State unit president Vikram Chowdhary, stopped the bus, which was carrying 30 passengers, for around half-an-hour and demanded immediate stoppage of the bus service to the neighbouring country, police said. (Contd on page 4 Col 1)

Security stepped up after threat

NEW DELHI, Aug 9:

Security has been beefed up in the national capital following inputs from central security agencies that Pakistan-based Lashker-e-Taiba terror group may attempt to attack markets or places of strategic importance.

The alert quoted a paragraph from speech of Hafiz Saeed, founder of Lashker-e-Taiba, delivered last month in Pakistan where he had openly threatened that his terrorists will carry out an attack in the national capital. (Contd on page 4 Col 1)

10 killed, 3 injured as bus falls into gorge in Uri

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Aug 9: In a tragic accident on the occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr, at least 10 persons died and three others were injured when a taxi rolled down into a gorge in North Kashmir border area of Uri this afternoon.

The Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Baramulla told Excelsior that the ill-fated sumo passengers were returning to home from Boniyar after offering Friday prayers when the driver failed to negotiate a curve on a steep mountainous road near the Line of Control in Uri.

Six persons died on the spot while four of them succumbed to their injuries in the Baramulla Sub-district Hospital while condition of three others is stated to be critical.

The overloaded Tata Sumo bearing registration number JK05B-4420 while carrying 13 people on a steep road when only 9 people are allowed to board a sumo. The sumo fell into

about 200 meters deep gorge.

The deceased persons included Abdul Hameed Geelani, Mushtaq Ahmad Geelani, Bashir Ahmad Sheikh, Abdul Qayoom Peer, Mohammad Iqbal Sheikh, Abdul Rashid Sheikh, Juma Kala, Mushtaq Ahmad Sheikh and Gulam Hasan Sheikh.

Four injured persons identified as Ali Mohammad Lone, Basharat Ahmad, Mushtaq Ahmad Shah and Fareed Ahmad Sood were later referred to SKIMS Soura, Srinagar for specialized treatment and one among them succumbed to injuries.

A pall of gloom descended across the Boniyar belt on this auspicious as the news spread in the area. The dead bodies have been handed over to the relatives for last rites.

Senior Police officers including SSP Baramulla reached the spot and was supervising the rescue operation.

Chief Minister, Omar Abdullah expressed shock over

the loss of human lives in the mishap. In his condolence message to the bereaved families, the Chief Minister conveyed his grief and sympathy to them.

The CM sanctioned an ex-gratia relief of Rs one lakh for the deceased and Rs. 10,000 for the injured. The Chief Minister directed the District Administration and Health Department for providing all possible medicare to the injured.

Union Minister for New and Renewable Energy, Dr. Farooq Abdullah and Member Parliament Mohammad Shafi Uri, Minister for Medical Education, Youth Services and Sports, Taj Mohi-ud-Din and Minister for CA&PD and Transport, Choudhary Mohammad Ramzan have expressed deep grief and shock over the loss of precious human lives.

They also directed the district administration to provide best medical assistance to the injured persons and also prayed for their speedy recovery.

Eid celebrated across Kashmir; SP, DSP among 2 dozen injured in clashes

Fayaz Bukhari

SRINAGAR, Aug 9: Around two dozen people including police officers were injured in clashes that broke out after Eid-ul-Fitr in Eidgah



People offer Eid-ul-Fitr prayers at Eidgah in downtown Srinagar on Friday. -Excelsior/Amin War

area in the old city area Srinagar this morning while lakhs of people offered prayers across Kashmir to celebrate Eid-ul-Fitr, marking

the culmination of Holy fasting month of Ramzan.

Clashes broke out soon after the Eid-ul-Fitr prayers in Eidgah area of old city where around one lakh people offered prayers. Hurriyat Chairman Mirwaiz

However, he addressed the gathering over phone.

Soon after the prayers a large group of people carried out a protest march and pelted stones on the police who were deployed in full strength in the

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Police charged batons and fire tearsmoke to disperse the stone throwing protesters at (Contd on page 4 Col 3)

Woman dies in house-collapse

Rain, floods paralyse life; disrupt traffic

Gopal Sharma

JAMMU, Aug 9: Incessant rain and flash floods in rivers and nullahs in many parts of the region hit the normal life badly, affecting movement of traffic while several houses got



A car moving through flooded road near Science College in Jammu on bank for his rescue. Friday. (Other pic on page 4) -Excelsior/Rakesh

collapsed in Jammu, Samba and Kathua areas resulting into the death of woman whereas one person who was

trapped in flash flood in Basantar river in Samba was rescued by police and civil defence men today.

Reports from Samba said that traffic on Kaluchak-Purmandal and Smailpur roads in Bari Brahmana, Samba

hours in the morning. The water also entered many houses causing damage to the public property.

The traffic on several border roads of district Samba and Jammu also remained suspended for hours together. Long traffic jam was also created in a nullah in Bari Brahmana area during morning due to flash flood. The rain and over flooded drain water entered some houses in Bari Brahmana town. Babbar Nullah in Rajpura-Gaghwal also disrupted movement of traffic for hours.

A villager namely Sardari Lal, son of Munshi Ram, resident of Daboh who had gone to Basantar river got trapped in the middle due to flash flood. Later a large number of villagers arrived at the

district administration and sought help. Then police and civil defence men reached the spot and by using ropes, they (Contd on page 4 Col 1)

Major rebuff to Pak: Army refuses to exchange sweets on Eid

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 9: In a major rebuff to Pakistan, Indian Army today refused to exchange sweets with

Pakistani troops on the Line of Control (LoC) on the occasion of Eid festival today as a mark of strong protest against the killings of five Indian soldiers at Poonch sector on August 6.

The gates at Chakan-Da-Bagh didn't open this morning as used to be on every major festival during which the two Armies exchanged sweets, fruits and pleasantries to celebrate the festivals.

"There was no fun of exchanging sweets with Pakistan Army, which had displayed its most inhuman character by killing give Army jawans. Therefore, we decided not to exchange sweets or fruits with Pakistan Army today," a senior Army officer said in Poonch.

The practice of exchanging sweets was going on for past quite some time on all major festivals like Diwali, Eid, Independence Day, Republic Day etc. The two Armies used to meet at cross-LoC point of Chakan-Da-Bagh in Poonch, Tata Pani in Mendhar and some other points on the LoC to exchange sweets and fruits.

This was, however, after a long time that the officials of two Armies didn't exchange sweets on a major festival.

Sources said it had become clear almost last night that there would be no exchange of sweets on Eid as the killings of five Army soldiers had taken place only three days back. The Government of India and Indian Army had already blamed Pakistani soldiers and Border Action Team (BAT) of Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT) for the killings of five Army soldiers in Sarala bat-

(Contd on page 4 Col 7)

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	Sunset on Saturday: 07.22 p.m.
	Sunrise on Sunday: 05.53 a.m.
	KASHMIR
	Partially cloudy sky.
	TEMPERATURE
	Max: 33.8 Degree C
	Min: 21.3 Degree C
	RELATIVE HUMIDITY
	Highest: 74.0 per cent
	Lowest: 45.0 per cent

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