

Heat wave sears north India, rains likely by July 10

NEW DELHI, July 8:

North India sizzled under heat wave conditions on Thursday owing to a delay in the arrival of monsoon with the weather department forecasting rain-laden easterly winds covering the region by July 10.

The national capital's fourth "heat wave day" of this month saw the mercury soaring to 41.8 degrees Celsius, five notches above normal. It had reeled under heat wave on July 1, July 2 and July 7 also.

For the plains, a heat wave is declared when the maximum temperature is more than 40 degrees Celsius and at least 4.5 notches above the normal.

The India Meteorological Department has forecast thunderstorms with rain in the city on Friday.

Delhi's bordering city of Gurgaon in Haryana experienced a maximum temperature of 43.7 degrees Celsius, six notches above the normal as there was no let-up in the hot weather conditions in the state and neighbouring Punjab.

Among other places in

One missing, another injured as load carrier rolls down

Excelsior Correspondent

KISHTWAR, July 8: One person went missing while another received injuries when the load carrier they were travelling in rolled down and submerged into river Chenab near Kandni area on Kishtwar-Thathri-Doda highway.

As per police sources, a load carrier bearing registration number JK06-9282 rolled down and submerged into river Chenab near Kandni area on Kishtwar-Thathri-Doda highway, resulting one person got injured and another went missing.

After getting information, police team rushed to the spot and shifted the injured person to District Hospital Kishtwar, where he was responding to the treatment, when last reports came in.

The injured was identified as Bilal Ahmed, son of Mushtaq Ahmed of Bhaderwah.

The identity of missing person was not ascertained, while search operation was launched to locate him.

Kishtwar Police has taken cognizance in this regard.

Power shutdown

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, July 8: Superintending Engineer, O&M Circle Jammu, JPDCL has informed that the power supply to Sainik Colony and its adjoining areas shall remain affected on July 9 and 10 from 6 am to 10 am.

Similarly, the power supply to Gangyal and its adjoining areas shall remain affected on July 9 and 10 from 6 am to 10 am.

Meanwhile, Superintending Engineer (Distribution) JPDCL O&M Circle, Kathua has informed that the power supply to Bari Brahmana Town, Teli Basti, Birpur Complex and adjoining areas shall remain affected on July 09, 12 and 14 from 6 am to 10 am.

Similarly, the power supply to Jakh Town, Joggpur and adjoining areas shall remain

Puran is LJSP Labour Cell district president

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, July 8: At a function here today, J&K Lok Jan Shakti Party (LJSP) president, Rafiq Malik appointed Puran Malhotra as district president of Labour Cell of the party.

Speaking on the occasion, Malik said: "After reorganization of J&K UT unit of LJSP, we are expanding our units and in this connection we have appointed Puran Malhotra as district president of Labour Cell."

In his address, Puran Malhotra expressed gratitude to the Rafiq Malik for his appointment in Labour Cell of the party.

Earlier, a large number of

7 vehicles involved in illegal mining seized

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, July 8: Gharota, Nagrota and Manwal Police seized 7 vehicles involved in illegal mining.

As per police sources, teams from Police Station Gharota led by SHO Inspector Khyati Maan Khajuria, Police Station Nagrota led by SHO Inspector Mohammad Shoket and Police Post Manwal headed by Inspector Vikram Singh Jasrotia raided at different locations in their respective areas and seized seven different vehicles involved in illegal mining.

The mining was being done in violation of order of High Court of J&K.

In order to strictly implement the drive against illegal mining and to tighten noose against the violators of the law, Jammu Police has initiated strict action.

Haryana, Narnaul, Hisar, Rohtak and Ambala recorded their maximum temperatures at 43.3 degrees Celsius, 42.8 degrees Celsius, 41.8 degrees Celsius and 40.8 degrees Celsius respectively.

In Punjab, the maximum temperatures in Amritsar and Patiala settled at 40 degrees Celsius and 41.4 degrees Celsius, up to six notches above the normal. Bathinda recorded a high of 40.4 degrees Celsius.

Amid the blazing heat, Haryana saw its peak power demand rise by 11.25 per cent from what it was last year. A top official in the electricity department said Haryana's power utilities have met the highest ever peak demand of 12,120 MW on July 7 by supplying 2,638 lakh units without imposing any power cut to any of the categories of consumers.

However, Punjab witnessed unscheduled load shedding. The state is reeling under an unprecedented power shortage with the opposition blaming the Congress government for failing to ensure round-the-clock power to people.

Heat wave conditions prevailed in parts of Rajasthan also as no rainfall was recorded in major districts of the state.

Sriganganagar was the hottest place in the state with a maximum temperature of 44.3 degrees Celsius, followed by Pilani 43.2 degrees Celsius, Churu 43 degrees Celsius, Alwar 42.8 degrees Celsius, Dholpur 42.5 degrees Celsius and Pali 42 degrees Celsius.

Heavy rains in parts of Uttarakhand led to the collapse of a concrete bridge on Thursday, cutting off Darma, Vyas and Chaudas valleys from the rest of the border districts in the state. (PTI)

Bar Association seeks upgradation of Mendhar Court

Excelsior Correspondent

POONCH, July 8: Bar Association Mendhar today demanded upgradation of Mendhar Court.

While speaking to the media-persons today, president Bar Association Mendhar, Advocate Sardar Javid Khan along with vice president Adv Ghulam Rasool and others said that the pendency of cases is high here at Mendhar Court and there is an urgent need to upgrade it to Additional Session Court level, keeping in view high pendency of civil and criminal cases.

Akhil Bhartiya Gau Raksha Parishad forms J&K unit

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, July 8: Akhil Bhartiya Gau Raksha Parishad has constituted its Jammu Kashmir unit and appointed the office bearers with Aasa Nand Sharma as the UT President.

Kushal Sharma has been appointed as the organizing secretary; Rajneesh, Seema and Bishan as the vice-presidents; Tanveer, Anuj and Avni as the secretaries and Shweta as the media incharge.

Usha, Kiran, Bhanu and Rudra have been nominated as the executive body members of Gau Raksha Parishad.

The office bearers were announced by All India President of the Gau Raksha Parishad, Shri Shri 1008 Maha Mandleshwar Vaisho Dass, while addressing a press conference, here today.

Speaking on the occasion, he appealed the Government of Jammu and Kashmir to extend all possible held for protection of cows in the Union Territory and stressed for opening of Gaushalas here.

3 arrested with illicit liquor, ganja

Excelsior Correspondent

KATHUA, July 8: Hatli and Nagri Police arrested three persons along with illicit liquor and ganja.

As per police spokesman, a team from Police Post Hatli apprehended three persons along with 370 grams ganja and 140 bottles of illicit liquor.

The arrested persons were identified as Ajay Kumar, son of Vijendra Kumar of Bihar, Ajay Singh, son of Dayal Singh of Tarhara District Kathua and Tarseem Lal, son of Girdhari Lal of Ward Number 7, District Kathua.

Cases under relevant Sections have been registered at Police Station Kathua and investigation started.

The arrests were made by police teams led by Incharge Police Post Hatli Inspector Yash Paul Sharma and Incharge Police Post Nagri Inspector Rajesh Kumar under the supervision of DySP Headquarters Shammi Kumar and SSP Kathua RC Kotwal.

9 bovines seized, smuggler arrested

Excelsior Correspondent

RAJOURI, July 8: The police seized a Tata Mobile vehicle along with nine bovine animals and arrested bovine smuggler from Thana Mandi area of Rajouri during morning hours today.

Official sources said that a police party from Tanna Mandi during checking at upper bridge, Thanna, intercepted a Tata Mobile vehicle no. JK-11B/9450 at 7 am today and found nine (9) milch animals loaded in it. The police seized the vehicle along with cattle and arrested its driver/smuggler.

He has been identified as Zaffar Iqbal, son of Mir Hussain, resident of Tota Morha, Behrote in Thanna Mandi tehsil. A case FIR No. 156/2021 was registered against him.

NIA court allows ED to quiz Waze

MUMBAI, July 8:

A special court here on Thursday allowed the Enforcement Directorate to question dismissed Mumbai police officer Sachin Waze in an alleged money-laundering case registered against former Maharashtra home minister Anil Deshmukh.

Waze was arrested by the National Investigation Agency in March in the case of explosives-laden SUV found near industrialist Mukesh Ambani's residence in south Mumbai, and the subsequent murder of businessman Mansukh Hiran. He is now in judicial custody. The ED has been allowed to question

Waze for three days at Taloja Jail in Navi Mumbai where he is lodged, a defence lawyer said.

The ED has so far arrested two aides of Deshmukh -- his personal secretary Sanjeev Palande and personal assistant Kundan Shinde -- in the money-laundering case against the NCP leader.

The central agency claimed that the arrested duo confessed that Waze had collected Rs 4.70 crore from orchestra bar owners in Mumbai and handed it to Shinde in two installments.

While seeking permission from the special NIA court to quiz Waze, the ED said it wanted to confront Palande and Shinde with the former assistant police inspector of the crime branch. (PTI)

3 held for stealing transmission equipment from mobile towers

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, July 8: Hajar Kotli Police arrested three persons for stealing transmission equipments from mobile towers.

As per police sources, while investigation a case registered under FIR Number 114/2021 under Sections 380, 454 and 411 IPC regarding theft at mobile tower, a team from Police Station Hajar Kotli led by SHO Inspector Devinder Singh and assisted by PSI Sheraz Ahmad conducted series of raids and finally arrested three persons.

The arrested persons were identified as Kali Das, son of late Munshi Ram and Karan Singh alias Karan, son of Buri Singh,

Govt fixes rates of sacrificial animals ahead of Eid

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, July 8: Ahead of Eid-ul Azha, the Government today fixed the rates of sacrificial livestock in the Kashmir Valley.

As per an order issued hereby the Director Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA) Kashmir Dr Abdul Salam Mir, the rates for Delhi Walla and Merino Cross vari-

Stabber arrested within 24 hours

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, July 8: Bakshi Nagar Police arrested a stabber within 24 hours.

As per police sources, yesterday a complaint was lodged by Subash Chander Sahani, son of Puran Chand of 59 Resham Ghar Colony with Police Station Bakshi Nagar stating that a person named Arun Khajuria alias Anu Sharma, son of Shankar Dass of Resham Ghar Colony District Jammu wrongfully restrained the way of his son named Gourab Sahani and injured him with a sharp edge weapon.

Acting over the complaint, a case under FIR Number

Over 2500 fined for violating COVID SOPs

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, July 8: Police today said to have penalized over 2500 people across Kashmir for violating COVID-19 SOPs across Kashmir and recovered a fine to the tune of over 3 lakh rupees.

"Continuing its efforts to curb the outbreak of 2nd wave of Coronavirus, during the last 24 hours Police have realized fine to the tune of Rs 3,16,200 from 2540

Man dies under mysterious circumstances

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, July 8: A man died under mysterious circumstances here today, police sources said.

The deceased was identified as Himanshu Sharma, a resident of Patiala, Punjab. He was admitted in a private hospital after some abdomen pain and died during treatment.

After conducting post-mortem at Government Medical College and Hospital (GMCH), the body of the deceased was handed over to legal heirs for last rites.

Inquest proceedings under Section 174 CrPc have been initiated by Channi Himmat Police.

Meanwhile, the family members of the deceased expressed their anguish and demanded action against the hospital authorities for their alleged negligence.

Eastern Ladakh

Early completion of disengagement could pave way for de-escalation: India

NEW DELHI, July 8:

India on Thursday reiterated that only early completion of disengagement in the remaining friction points in eastern Ladakh could pave the way for both Indian and Chinese troops to consider de-escalation and ensure full restoration of peace and tranquillity in the border areas.

At a media briefing, External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said such a step could enable progress in bilateral relations between the two countries.

"I would like to reiterate that only early completion of disengagement in the remaining areas could pave the way for the two sides to consider de-escalation of forces and ensure full restoration of peace and tranquillity and

enable progress on overall bilateral relations," he said.

India and China held a virtual meeting of the Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination (WMCC) on border affairs last month as part of the dialogue process to resolve the standoff.

In the meeting, the two sides agreed to hold the next round of military talks at an early date to achieve the objective of complete disengagement in remaining friction points in eastern Ladakh.

"You would recall that the 22nd meeting of the Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination (WMCC) on the border was held on June 25. The two sides also agreed to hold the 12th round of senior commanders

meeting at an early date. We will certainly share any update once we have that," Bagchi said.

The 11th round of Corps Commander-level talks between the two sides on the border row was held on April 9.

India and China were locked in a military standoff at multiple friction points in eastern Ladakh since early May last year. However, the two sides completed the withdrawal of troops and weapons from the North and South banks of Pangong lake in February following a series of military and diplomatic talks.

The two sides are now engaged in talks to extend the disengagement process to the remaining friction points. (PTI)

Announce special package for fruit growers: Vakil

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, July 8: Senior vice-president People's Conference (PC) and former minister Abdul Gani Vakil today said that fruit industry in Kashmir is at the verge of collapse as Government has ignored it at the ground level.

In a statement issued here today, Vakil said fruit growers in Kashmir are facing acute hardships as the administration has sidelined their demands.

"Although after the abrogation of Article 370, the Government of India had made big promises that apple industry in Kashmir would be boosted through special packages but it had remained restricted to statements only. The senior leader said till time no such package was given to them.

"Most of the growers are

struggling in paying their taxes, loans and other things. We have seen fruit industry which was once the backbone of J&K's economy is presently at the verge of extinction," Vakil added.

"It is unfortunate that each of our fruit growers have faced heavy losses as Government has failed to upgrade its infrastructure from the past several years," he regretted.

Vakil urged Central Government to intervene in the matter, so that valley-based growers would not be discouraged. He further urged the Central Government to announce a special package for the fruit growers in Kashmir and demanded to waive off KCC and other loans as it can be sigh of relief to the community who heavily suffered losses due to COVID-19 lockdown.

People protest against water crisis, block road

Excelsior Correspondent

NEWSHERA, July 8: The people from Rajal area today blocked Jammu-Rajouri highway and held strong protest against PHE/Jal Shakti Department.

They were protesting against the severe scarcity of drinking water in the area during these hot summer days. The villagers including large number of women and children, came out on the highway at Rajal in Nowshera and blocked the road at around 12.15 pm. They were shouting slogans against the PHE

authorities. The movement of vehicles on the busy highway came to halt.

Then SHO and Tehsildar Nowshera reached the spot and pacified the protesting people. Later, two Sarpanchs from Rajal A&B Panchayats- Mohan Kumar and Shubam Lakhanpal alongwith SHO, Tehsildar and AEE PHE, Nowshera moved to the office of ADC Nowshera where, PHE officials assured to resolve the issue by tomorrow. The power supply issue was also resolved on the spot in front of ADC. The traffic remained suspended for about half an hour on the highway.



Former MLC Vikram Kandhawa releasing devotional songs album along with team of artist at Jammu on Thursday.

Randhawa releases devotional album

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, July 8: BJP State secretary and former Member Legislative Council (MLC), Vikram Randhawa, today released a devotional songs album 'Bawa Aali Moha', sung by talented singer Rohit Dubey.

The music of the album is composed by Parmjeet Titu, while lyrics are given by Nirbhav Salthia, video is done by KK Malhotra, project by Sahil Mahajan and album is produced by Rajveer Manni.

Former MLC appreciated the

work of the entire team for producing such a wonderful devotional song album. He said that Jammu has an immense talent which is now flourishing at every level and in every field. "Many younger singers have emerged as icons and the credit goes to the social media platforms which help them is gaining publicity and appreciation of their good work," he added.

The album has also been released on Youtube channel 'Maa Bawe Wali Records Present'.

Shiv Sena-Dogra Front protest against poor water, power supply

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, July 8: Activists of Dogra Front & Shiv Sena here today took out a protest rally against the poor water and power supply.

The rally was led by Ashok Gupta, Shiv Sena president. The protesters gathered at PDD office at Parade and lighted candles and waved hand fans amidst sloganeering against PDD and Jal Shakti Department for their failure to provide basic facilities to the people.

"As the temperature of Jammu is increasing daily, electricity and water supply seems to have vanished away," Ashok Gupta said adding that the people are forced to sleep without fans and coolers as there is no electricity since past 36 hours. He lambasted at the power

and water supply departments for accusing the general masses for power crisis in the name of power theft and added that Shiv Sena and Dogra Front will continue to protest till provision of basic amenities like water and power supply is not ensured to common masses by the authorities concerned.

Gupta also said that improper power supply has led to scarcity of water in the city and the Lt Governor should take cognizance of the matter and issue necessary instructions to the PDD authorities for immediate action to ensure uninterrupted power supply to the people.

Deepu, Kishore, Subhash, Ajay, Prem, Bantu, Vicky, Kalu, Nareish, Vinay, Shokit, Atulya and others were also present in the protest.