

Omarwelcomes Mehbooba's maiden tweet

SRINAGAR, SEPT 25 /- National Conference leader Omar Abdullah today welcomed Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Mehbooba Mufti for her first tweet, three years after joining the microblogging site.

Mufti on Sunday took to Twitter to share a short promotional film of the state's tourism department. Today, Omar tweeted, "25,000 followers later @MehboobaMufti finally broke her silence on twitter with a tourism promotion video. Welcome to Twitter CM Sahiba." The five-minute film titled "Warmest Place on Earth" which aims to counter the negative perception about the Valley, has drawn over 1.6 million views in less than 48 hours after its release.

The Opposition leader had hit out at the chief minister yesterday for terming the situation in Kashmir peaceful. "This is something disconcerting about the CM claiming this just days after her minister survived an attack that killed 35 people", Omar had tweeted. He was reacting to a news report which quoted Mehbooba saying that the situation in Kashmir was peaceful and it was the media which was creating a negative perception about the Valley.

Gurdaspur's seat a parking space for outsiders: AAP candidate

CHANDIGARH, SEPT 25 /- The AAP candidate for the Gurdaspur Lok Sabha by-poll, Major General (ret'd) Suresh Khajuria, today accused the Congress and the BJP of turning the Parliamentary seat into a "parking space for outsiders". Khajuria said the seat had always been represented by "outsiders", barring two occasions, and urged the voters to back a "local face". He also vowed to generate employment, build educational institutes and revive the old industry clusters in Gurdaspur. "Some political parties are trying to fit in their candidates here, including those who lost elections in their areas, as is this (the Gurdaspur seat) is a parking space for broken vehicles," the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) candidate told news agency PTI over phone. Khajuria (64) hails from the Bungal village in Pathankot, which falls under the Gurdaspur Parliamentary constituency.

"Congress candidate Sunil Jakhar hails from Abohar and BJP nominee Swarn Singh Salaria is from Mumbai. Would they find time to meet the people of Bhoal, Pathankot, Batala and attend their social ceremonies?" he wondered. "Jakhar recently shrugged off the 'outsider' tag as 'irrelevant' during a meeting with Congress workers. Salaria, a business tycoon, said he had roots in Gurdaspur after Punjab chief minister Amarinder Singh claimed that the BJP nominee would never leave his business interests in Mumbai for the post of Gurdaspur. Khajuria, who had served two tenures as the brigade and division commander in Punjab during his 37 years of service in the Army, also battled for involving the ex-servicemen and unemployed youth in community policing to keep a check on illegal activities in the border areas.

Tourism dept's short film on Kashmir takes social media by storm

SRINAGAR, SEPT 25 /- Within a few hours of its release, a promotional film by tourism department in Kashmir, to counter the negative perception about the Valley, has taken the social media by a storm. The film titled "Warmest Place on Earth" has drawn over 1.6 million views in less than 48 hours after its release. The five-minute film titled "Warmest Place on Earth" has also been shared by Bollywood celebrities like Karan Johar, Mitzi Ali and Alia Bhatt. The lyrics of the

Terror funding: NIA quizzes trader body head, Kashmir student

NEW DELHI, SEPT 25 /- The National Investigation Agency today examined the head of a traders' body and a Kashmir University PhD student in connection with a case related to the funding of terror activities in Kashmir, officials said.

Yasin Khan of Kashmir Traders and Marketing Federation, and PhD scholar Aali Fazi had been examined here, a National Investigation Agency (NIA) spokesman said. They were summoned by the probe agency to appear before it today. The duo were questioned about alleged funding to various groups that held stones at security forces, he said. The NIA had registered a case

on May 30 against separatist and secessionist leaders, including unidentified members of the Hurriyat Conference, who have been acting in connivance with active militants of proscribed terrorist organisations Hizbul Mujahideen, Dukhtar-e-Millat, Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and other outfits and gangs.

The case was registered for raising, receiving and collecting funds through various illegal means, including hawala, for funding separatist and terrorist activities in Jammu and Kashmir and for causing disruption in the Valley by pelting the security forces with stones, burning schools, damaging public property and

waging war against India, the NIA said in the FIR. Hafiz Saeed, the Pakistan-based chief of the Jamaat-ud-Dawa, the front of the banned terrorist organisation Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), has been named in the FIR as an accused. The FIR also names organisations such as the two factions of the Hurriyat, one led by Syed Ali Shah Geelani and the other by Mirwaiz Umar Farooq, the Hizbul Mujahideen and the Dukhtar-e-Millat, an all-women outfit of separatists. The NIA has also secured confessional statements from two of the accused in the case. A confessional statement is recorded before a judicial magistrate. The accused confirms

in it that he or she is giving a statement without any pressure from the court premises during the investigation. The entire process is videographed and no investigation officer is present in the court during the proceedings. In case of retraction later, the agency can file a case of perjury. The NIA has arrested 10 people so far in connection with its probe into the funding of terror activities in parts of Kashmir. They include Aitaf Ahmed Shah, the son-in-law of Geelani, and noted businessman Zahoor Watali. Geelani's close aide Ayaz Akbar, who is also the spokesperson of the hardline separatist organisation Tehreek-e-Hurriyat, and Peer Saifulah have also been arrested.

point, we suspect that the boy would have been a victim of the killer online game. However, no whole image was found on the boy's forearm," he said.

In another case suspected to be linked to the notorious online game Blue Whale Challenge, a 17-year-old boy allegedly hanged himself in Blue Whale Panchkula, police said today.

The body of the teenager, who studied at a Chandigarh school, was found hanging from the ceiling at his home on Saturday. Panchkula DCP Manbir Singh said over the phone.

While necessary investigations were being conducted into the matter, the parents of the boy today informed that they found some diagrams and notes scribbled in the boy's diary, which raised suspicion that he could have been playing the Blue Whale Challenge, the DCP stated. "At this

point, we suspect that the boy would have been a victim of the killer online game. However, no whole image was found on the boy's forearm," he said. In another case suspected to be linked to the notorious online game Blue Whale Challenge, a 17-year-old boy allegedly hanged himself in Blue Whale Panchkula, police said today. The body of the teenager, who studied at a Chandigarh school, was found hanging from the ceiling at his home on Saturday. Panchkula DCP Manbir Singh said over the phone. While necessary investigations were being conducted into the matter, the parents of the boy today informed that they found some diagrams and notes scribbled in the boy's diary, which raised suspicion that he could have been playing the Blue Whale Challenge, the DCP stated. "At this



An elderly woman walking on the street of Nohhatta in downtown Srinagar where curfew like restrictions have been imposed on Monday.

NGT directs Delhi govt, DJB on progress in Yamuna cleaning

NEW DELHI, SEPT 25 /- The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has directed the Delhi government and the Delhi Jal Board (DJB) to submit a status report on the progress of the work in the first phase of cleaning the river Yamuna.

A bench headed by NGT chairperson Justice Swatanter Kumar asked the AAP government and the DJB to file a comprehensive report on the project, which aims to bring down pollution levels in the Najafgarh and Delhi Gate drains. "We direct NGT to submit a status report with regard to compliance of the

directions of the tribunal in relation to execution of the work of Phase-I of river Yamuna.

This should be reported without default," the bench said. While Phase-I of Yamuna cleaning project aims to lower the pollution levels in the Najafgarh and Delhi Gate drains, Phase-II deals with Shahdara, Barapullah and other drains.

During the hearing, the counsel for NCT Delhi submitted that steps were being taken to clean the river and the flood plains of Yamuna after the recent festive season of immersion were over.

The matter was fixed for

next hearing on October 4. Earlier, the NGT had directed Haryana, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh to file a complete report of the stretch of the Yamuna falling beyond the national capital.

The green panel had earlier said that pollution in the Yamuna was of serious concern as it was highly contaminated by industrial effluents and sewage.

It had also asked Haryana and Himaachal Pradesh Pollution Control Board to jointly conduct a study of water quality and the flow of Yamuna at the point it enters Haryana, and submit the list of industries

located in the catchment area. It had also constituted a committee headed by the Delhi Jal Board CEO to oversee the execution of work pertaining to the cleaning of the river and asked it to submit reports at regular intervals. The green panel had noted that almost 67 per cent of the pollutants reaching Yamuna would be treated by the two sewage treatment plants (STP) located at Delhi Gate and Najafgarh under the first phase of the "Mallik S Niramal Yamuna Revitalisation Project 2017. The NGT was hearing an plea on the monitoring of this project. (PTI)

UDF demands registration of case against Kerala transport minister

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, SEPT 25 /- The Congress-led UDF Opposition in Kerala today demanded that a case be registered against transport minister Thomas Chandy for alleged encroachment of backwaters in Kuttanad in Alappuzha district.

In a letter to state revenue minister E Chandrasekharan, Leader of Opposition in the state Assembly, Ramesh Chennithala said it was learnt that Alappuzha district collector had submitted a report to the state government stating that Chandy had encroached vast stretches of lands including

wetlands in violation of Kerala Conservation of Paddy Land and Wetland Act, 2008. Based on the report, necessary steps should be taken to prosecute Chandy under section 12 (1) of the Act, before the Alappuzha chief magistrate court, Chennithala said in the letter. Delaying action against Chandy could be seen only as a challenge to the law of land, he alleged.

It was also learnt that Collector's report also stated that parking space for the Lake Palace Resort, of the Water World Company owned by Chandy, is being encroached by Chandy. However, Chandy, a businessman-turned-

politician of Nationalist Congress Party, has denied the charges. Chandy, representing Kuttanad in Alappuzha district in the state assembly, has been under attack from the Congress-led UDF and BJP ever since the allegations of encroachments surfaced. Alappuzha district collector TV Anupama had on September 22 submitted a preliminary report to state revenue minister E Chandrasekharan in this regard.

Chandy was sworn in as the minister in April, replacing party nominee A K Sasendran, who had quit the cabinet after a purported audio clip of him speaking in sexual undertones to a woman emerged.

Apna Dal claims Mayawati's voters turning towards them

MATHURA, SEPT 25 /- BSP supremo Mayawati was "baffled" by the "erosion" in her vote bank in favour of the Apna Dal (Soneilal), the NDA constituent claimed here today.

She had been organising rallies in Uttar Pradesh to check the "exodus" from her party, Arvind Sharma, a spokesman of the outfit, claimed today that her efforts would bear no fruit if she did not change her "temperament".

"Mayawati is desperately trying to carry favour with the voters. But, the people have realised that she has nothing to do with their welfare," Sharma said. He criticised the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) chief for "promoting her family members" within the party. "Mayawati has foisted the mission of late Kanshi Ram by parachuting her own family members into the party," he alleged. The voters of Uttar Pradesh had found an "able, dedicated and sincere well wisher" in Union minister Apna Dal (S) leader Anupriya Patel, Sharma claimed.

"Politics, for Mayawati, is a trade and not a service. The people have seen through her selfish motives and turned away," he said. The Apna Dal (S) spokesman also claimed that the opposition parties were finding it difficult to counter the "people-oriented" work of the BJP governments in Uttar Pradesh and at the Centre.

Demotisation and Goods and Services Tax (GST) are the two "biggest" decisions of the Centre, would boost the economic growth of the country, he said. "Currency circulation is picking up pace, more bank notes are in circulation now. The decision to implement the GST would contribute to the country's GDP growth," Sharma claimed.

Court acquits all 17 accused in ex-Lankan Prez kin attack case

RAMESWARAM, SEPT 25 /- A court here today acquitted all the 17 persons involved in the alleged attack on a close relative of former Sri Lankan President Mahinda Rajapaksa here in 2012.

After hearing the witnesses on behalf of the prosecution, judicial magistrate Prabhakaran observed that the case had not been proved by the prosecution. Suspected MDMK and Naam Tamizhar tyakkam activists had on January 10, 2012 allegedly barged into the house of the Ramanathaswamy temple priest here and threw stones and slippers when a relative of Sri Lankan President Mahinda Rajapaksa was about to perform a puja.

The activists were charged with hurling stones and slippers at his relatives after they got to know that they had come to the island to perform a ritual for continuance of Rajapaksa's regime. Rajapaksa's relatives including Thirukumar Natesan and Nirupama Natesan (then MP) had come to perform 'parikara puja'. Thirukumar Natesan had allegedly sustained injuries in the attack by the group. Natesan was said to be a regular visitor to the temple as a pilgrim. Cases were filed against the 17 persons for trespassing, criminal intimidation among others.

Cong leaders shot dead in MP; sarpanch among 12 booked

DATIA, SEPT 25 /- A local Congress leader was shot dead and his son critically injured by assailants at a village near here, a police official said today. Police suspect political rivalry led to the fatal attack on Kailash Singh on Sunday night. The assault, numbering about a dozen, fired at the 50-year-old politician outside his home in village Rukhera under Deepar Police Station area and fled, said Mayank Awasthi, District Superintendent of Police. Singh died on the spot, while his son Kaldeep, who was with him at the time of the incident, suffered gunshot injuries and was referred to Gwalior for treatment, he added. Singh was the district vice-president of former wing of the Congress. Awasthi said it seems old political rivalry between Singh and his opponents, which surfaced during the last village panchayat elections, resulted in the assault. Police have booked 12 people, including village sarpanch Janak Singh for the attack and slumped murder and attempt to murder charges on them, the SP said. Further investigations are underway. Awasthi said, adding police teams have raided several places in search of the absconding accused.

Class student thrashed for stammering, dies

LUDHIANA, SEPT 25 /- An eight-year-old boy died after he was thrashed by a school teacher for stammering during a lesson in Philluanwal village, police said today. The boy was identified as Bindu Ram alias Guddu. The boy's family has alleged that a lady teacher on Saturday dragged him by hair and harshly pulled his ears. Dugri police station SHO said today: Guddu, a class student at Government Primary School here, fell ill after the incident. He was admitted to a private hospital where he succumbed to the injuries on Sunday, Singh said. District education officer (elementary) Jaspreet Kaur said an inquiry has been marked and necessary action would be taken after receiving the inquiry report.

Appendix 'A' to GE (AF) BKP Letter No 80639/BKP/AF/02/ED/DATED 22 Sep 2017

NOTICE INVITING FOR E-TENDERING MILITARY ENGINEER SERVICES

Garrison Engineer, (AF) Barrackdoper, P.O. Barrackdoper, District Patna (North) Kolkata-700120 on behalf of President of India invites ONLINE BID (e-Tendering) for the following works from eligible enlisted Contractors of MES and enlisted/un-enlisted Contractors working with other Govt. Departments meeting eligibility criteria for selection of Contractors for issue of Tender as under:-

| (Sl. No.) | Name of Work & Tender ID | Estimated cost of the works | Amount of the money | Cost of tender | Date of e-auctioning | Appropriate Class and Category for Enlisted/Contractor |
|-----------|---|-----------------------------|---------------------|----------------|-------------------------|--|
| 1. | Repair/Replacement and maintenance to lighting appliances at Kanchrapara, LOS Dum Dum, Jaltapore under GE (AF) Barrackdoper. Tender ID: 2017_MES_14825_1 | Rs. 10,00,00,000 Lakhs | Rs. 20,000,- | Rs. 500,- | 11 Oct 2017 at 1000hrs. | Class 'E' Category 'b' (i). |
| 2. | Repair/Replacement and maintenance to internal wiring (L.E.D Light) including RCB, MCB's Sub Main wiring and replacement of internal fuse and other concerned works at AF Camp Kanchrapara LOS Dum Dum AF Camp, Jaltapore and Barasat under GE (AF) Barrackdoper. Tender ID: 2017_MES_14827_1 | Rs. 15,00,00,000 Lakhs | Rs. 30,000,- | Rs. 500,- | 11 Oct 2017 at 1000hrs. | Class 'E' Category 'b' (i). |

Eligible Criteria (For contractors not enlisted in MES)

(i) Meeting enlistment criteria of MES with regard to having satisfactorily completed requi site value works, annual turnover, working capital, fixed assets, verification of character & antecedents of Proprietor/Partners/Director etc.

(ii) No recovery outstanding in Govt. Dept.

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