

Daily Excelsior, 1 July 2006

### **Lt Col, 11 militants among 15 killed**

Srinagar, June 30: Even as security forces have foiled attempt of a major infiltration, killing eight militants on the LoC in Keran sector, a Lieutenant Colonel of Rashtriya Rifles, one militant and two civilians have died in a fierce gunbattle between militants and security forces in Bandipore area of Baramulla districts. today. Meanwhile, a Pakistani District Commander of Lashkar-e-Toiba has been eliminated by security forces in Pulwama district today. Informed sources in north Kashmir told the Excelsior that troops of 16-Sikh laid an ambush at Hema, near Ragni Post on the LoC in Keran sector of Kupwara district last evening after receiving information that a group of infiltrating militants was on way to Keran from Athmuqam in PoK..

Daily Excelsior, 1 July 2006

### **Hurriyat advocates demilitarisation**

Srinagar, June 30: Advocating the Pakistani line of demilitarisation of Jammu and Kashmir, Hurriyat Conference today asked the Government to take serious view of steps put forth by Islamabad so that the ongoing triangular talks could be made fruitful. Addressing the Friday congregation, Chairman of Hurriyat Conference Mirwaiz Umar Farooq said the suggestion from Pakistan could further better the relations between India and Pakistan and asked New Delhi to concentrate fully to work out an everlasting solution to the Kashmir issue. Hurriyat claims that at present a triangular concept of dialogue was on between India, Pakistan and the conglomerate..

Daily Excelsior, 1 July 2006

### **Editorial: Justified concern**

It is to be welcomed that a high-level meeting in the national capital has decided to usher in remedial measures to tackle the present law and order situation in the State. The get-together has been held in the wake of step-up in infiltration as well as terrorist activities. Chaired by Army chief J.J. Singh the exercise has obviously been follow-up to a sudden review of the scenario carried out in Srinagar recently by National Security Adviser M.K. Narayanan. According to available details the synchronisation among various security forces, terror infrastructure across the Line of Control and violence resulting in innocent killings have come up for discussions. All actual players in the field are reported to have been present at the conference..

Daily Excelsior, 1 July 2006

### **Editorial: The valley sulkers (M L Kotru)**

Ten days spent in the valley, after an eight-month gap, brought me up against a new phenomenon which I would call the great sulk of urban Kashmiri Muslims. Not all the urbanites, but certainly the pro-active, politically-motivated sections of it. The cause of their sulk, to put simply, is what is perceived by them as the Indian leaderships failure to move forward quickly in the search for a resolution of the dispute with Pakistan. Gen. Musharraf, naturally, fares better in their estimation. Musharraf, they believe, has been very forthcoming on his proposals such as self-rule and demilitarisation. The Indians they believe are dithering..

Indian Express, 2 July 2006

### **Protests against killing rock city (Mir Ehasan)**

Srinagar, July 1: The city today witnessed a series of protest demonstrations against the killing of a handicapped youth by the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) near Munawarabad Chowk in the downtown city. Seven policemen and three civilians were injured in the clash between the protestors and the police. Police has registered a case against the CRPF. An internal enquiry headed by a DIG has been ordered by the CRPF. Relatives of a local handicapped youth, Inayatullah, 25, blamed the CRPF men deployed at hotel Ikhwan for killing him. As the family was preparing to perform the burial rites of the slain youth, only 100 meters away near Khayam Chowk, dozens of young men were engaged in a streetfight with the policemen. Shouting slogans against the government and CRPF, the protestors were demanding judicial probe into the incident..

Daily Excelsior, 2 July 2006

### **Pak clearance awaited for visit of J&K businessmen to PoK: Azad**

Srinagar, July 1: A list of 70 businessmen from Jammu and Kashmir, who want to start trade across the border, has been forwarded to Pakistani authorities for having interaction with their counter-parts putting up in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK). The list awaits Pak clearance. This was stated by Chief Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad during his inspection of truck terminal, customs and immigration sites at Salamabad near Uri today. Fifty canals have been earmarked for this purpose. The Chief Minister said that while the Government was keen to take up the

issue of starting business, the Pakistani authorities have so far not cleared the list, despite forwarding it six months back. Mr Azad, however, hoped that the matter will be expedited so that trade from Jammu and Kashmir and PoK is given full boost..

Daily Excelsior, 2 July 2006

### **Governor not involved in Lingum controversy: Shankaracharya**

Jammu, Kashmir Peethum Shankaracharya ruled out involvement of Jammu and Kashmir Governor S K Sinha in the controversy surrounding the man-made Shivlingum at the Amarnath shrine and said vested interests were responsible for blowing up the issue to scuttle the two-month pilgrimage. Governor is not involved and is not responsible for the controversy over Shivlingum. It is the vested political interests that have given birth to this major controversy to scuttle yatra, Swami Amritanand told reporters here. Claiming the Amarnath Shrine Board, headed by the State Governor, was not responsible for issue that has opened pendora box, he said we will not allow yatra to be scuttled by the vested political interests in Kashmir valley.

Daily Excelsior, 3 July 2006

### **Ahmadi, Rangarajan, Rasgotra, Ansari head working groups**

Jammu, July 2: The Government announced the names of four eminent persons including an ex Chief Justice of India, a former Governor of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and two retired officers of Indian Foreign Services (IFS) to head four working groups on Jammu and Kashmir. Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh had announced at the conclusion of the second round-table conference in Srinagar on May 24-25 that five working groups would be formed to look into broad issues and problems vis-a-vis Kashmir. The issues which had been announced by Dr Singh but hadnt been referred to in the four working groups include return of Kashmiri youths from areas controlled by Pakistan and an effective rehabilitation policy including employment for Kashmiri Pandit migrants and to consider increased responsiveness, accountability and transparency of the administration, effective measures to strengthen local self Government and effectively monitor development and programmes..

Greater Kashmir, 3 July 2006

### **Army, BSF vehicles crush 2**

Sopur: One youth died and a girl was injured when an Army vehicle hit them in Varmul district on Sunday afternoon while a paramilitary BSF water tanker hit a man in Budgam district, killing him instantly. Reports said the Army vehicle hit a motorcyclist, Muhammad Rafiq Gujri son of Bashir Ahmad of Arampora Varmul, injuring him and an unidentified pillion at Hyderbeigh Pattan. The duo was taken to hospital where Rafiq succumbed. The Army vehicle fled from the spot, angering local residents who came out demanding action against the erring soldiers. They blocked the traffic on the Srinagar-Varmul highway. In another incident, a Border Security Force (BSF) water tanker hit a pedestrian at Wathoora in central Kashmir district of Budgam on Sunday afternoon..

Daily Excelsior, 3 July 2006

### **Editorial: Jamaat vs Jamaat**

June 30 has come and gone. But one cant say with any degree of confidence that the tension between the pro and anti Syed Ali Shah Geelani camps within the Jamaat-e-Islami (Jammu and Kashmir) is over. The deadline of June 30 was fixed by Syed Nazir Ahmad Kashani, ameer of the Jamaat, for Mr Geelani and his close associates to distance themselves from their political organisation Tehreek-e-Hurriyat or TeH if they wished to occupy any office in their parent body. Formal notices were served on Mr Geelani and his three main colleagues Mohammad Ashraf Sehrai, Shah Wali Mohammad and Shaikh Mohammad Abdullah in this behalf. Their copies were circulated to all arkaan (basic members) of the Jamaat. Mr Geelani had launched TeH with the concurrence of Majlis-e-Shoora (supreme advisory council) of the Jamaat. Thus Syed Kashani himself was a party to the decision. A political lightweight he had evidently followed a middle route earlier in deference to Mr Geelani's status and hold over the flock. The effect of it was that Mr Geelani while being a member of the JeI could pursue his own line on the Kashmir issue that was independent of the religious-political party. For decades Mr Geelani had held complete sway over the Jamaat. This was especially true after the militancy began in the late 1980s..

Indian Express, 3 July 2006

### **Movement of militants across LoC on the rise (Mir Ehasan)**

Srinagar, July 2: For the first time after the devastating quake flattened Muzuffarabad and other towns of the Pakistani Occupied Kashmir (PoK), the infiltration and exfiltration has seen a surge on the Line of Control. Although the Army foiled several infiltration attempts on the LoC, official figures point out that the number of

infiltration attempts in the last three months is on a much higher side. Since April this year, over 250 militants have managed to sneak into the Valley after receiving arms training across the border. Infiltration is still going on and the militant infrastructure is still intact, said Army Chief Gen JJ Singh during his recent visit to the Teetwal village right on the LoC..

Daily Excelsior, 4 July 2006

### **No withdrawal of troops in J&K: Mukherjee**

New Delhi, July 3: Sending out an unambiguous message to Pakistan, Defence Minister Pranab Mukherjee said India does not entertain the idea of withdrawing its troops from Kashmir. There is no question of withdrawing the Army from Kashmir. The evaluation of the Army preparedness is a continuous process, Mr Mukherjee told reporters here. Earlier, the External Affairs Ministry and the Army chief had made similar statements, outrightly rejecting Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf's umpteenth suggestion that India demilitarise Kashmir. Mr Mukherjee's statement is fraught with great significance in the backdrop of Gen. Musharraf's recent statement that withdrawal of Indian troops from Kashmir would herald a lasting solution to the Kashmir imbroglio. Last week, Chief of the Army Staff Gen. J J Singh had also said that troops would not be withdrawn from Kashmir..

Daily Excelsior, 4 July 2006

### **3 militants shot dead in Rajouri, Bhadarwah**

Jammu, July 3: Three top militants including a deputy district commander of Hizbul Mujahideen were gunned down by Army and police in two separate encounter at Darhal in Rajouri and Bhadarwah in Doda districts since last night. In another incident, an Over Ground Worker (OGW) of Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT) was shot dead by the militants at Dashnan in Doda this morning. A joint team of police, SOG and SSG chased two militants at Hill Top in Darhal area of Rajouri district early this morning after spotting their movement, SSP Rajouri Farooq Khan, who supervised the operation, said..

Daily Excelsior, 4 July 2006

### **Iqbal Khanday remanded to 14-day judicial custody**

Srinagar, July 3: Even as 15 of the sex scam accused, arrested in the last over one month, are continuously failing to get a counsel to defend them, Chief Judicial Magistrate (CJM) Srinagar today remanded senior IAS officer Iqbal Khanday to 14-day-long judicial custody on CBI's petition. Meanwhile, a Division Bench (DB) of J&K High Court advised one of Mr Khanday's relatives to approach CJM Srinagar for arranging a counsel for the detained bureaucrat..

Greater Kashmir, 4 July 2006

### **Geelani to boycott Jamaat elections**

Srinagar: Hurriyat Conference Chairman Syed Ali Shah Geelani has accused the Jamaat-e-Islami of breaching the constitution and threatened that his Tehreek-e-Hurriyat will boycott the forthcoming elections of the organisation. He said the Jamaat-e-Islami has breached the constitution by breaking its agreement with the Tehreek-e-Hurriyat. The day Tehreek-e-Hurriyat was formed, the Jamaat-e-Islami in a written statement said that it had no objection to the move. But, on June 30, its chief Syed Nazir Ahmed Kashani unexpectedly severed ties with the Tehreek-e-Hurriyat and asked me to rejoin the organisation, Geelani added..

Daily Excelsior, 5 July 2006

### **PM assures full support for revival of J-K economy**

New Delhi, July 4 : Dr Manmohan Singh today assured full support for revival of economy of Jammu and Kashmir whose Chief Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad met him here and apprised him about various developmental works underway in the State. The Chief Minister informed the Prime Minister that he had series of meetings at New Delhi with two heads of the working groups. He informed him that he had first meeting with Mr. M. A. Ansari who is heading the working group which will evolve the measures to improve the conditions of people effected by militancy, schemes of rehabilitation of all orphans and widows affected by militancy, issues relating to return of Kashmiri youth from areas controlled by Pakistan, rehabilitation policy including employment for Kashmiri Pandit migrants, issues relating to relaxation of conditions for persons who have foresworn militancy..

Greater Kashmir, 5 July 2006

### **Bail plea of Mir, Khanday, others deferred**

Srinagar, July 4: A local court here today deferred till July 7 the bail applications of former Minister and sitting

legislator Ghulam Ahmed Mir, senior IAS officer Mohammad Iqbal Khanday, BSF DIG K C Padhi and three others arrested by the CBI in connection with the sex abuse case. The bail applications were taken up before the court of Chief Judicial Magistrate (CJM), Srinagar Mohammad Yousuf Akhoun today. The CBI also filed its report and objections to the bail pleas and sought some time to engage a lawyer to plead the case. While only the former Minister was represented by a lawyer, the other accused were unable to engage any counsel so far to plead their case..

The Indian Express, 5 July 2006

### **Musician's accidental killing raises Srinagar's anger to crescendo (Muzamil Jaleel)**

Srinagar, July 4: Just yards from the pigeon-holes of CRPF security nests, where armed men stand guard, hundreds have silently gathered under a canvas tent hastily rigged by the roadside. They talk in hushed tones, pausing only for a mother's scream—they killed my son, they killed my son, like a high-pitched refrain of some dirge. For many here, this is also the day a bit of the city's music died. For the victim is 25-year-old Inayat-ullah Shah, a man on crutches, whose sound is familiar to many here, riding the airwaves of Radio Kashmir..

Daily Excelsior, 5 July 2006

### **7 held, Pak ultra killed**

Srinagar, July 4: Police and security forces today killed a Pakistani militant of Hizbul Mujahideen in an encounter at Gallandar in Pampore. Independent reports, however, said that Pakistani militant was among the seven militants of Hizbul Mujahideen who had been apprehended by Police and security forces in a series of raids in Central Kashmir last fortnight. Officials claimed that with last night's operation, command structure of Hizbul Mujahideen had been completely broken in the central Kashmir districts of Srinagar and Budgam. Director General of J&K Police, Gopal Sharma, told mediapersons at a Press briefing that Hizbul Mujahideen's Pakistani militant, Sohail Afzal alias Ahmed Ali alias Ali Punjabi, had been killed in an encounter with Police and CRPF at Gallandar in Pampore town on Srinagar-Jammu highway last night..

Daily Excelsior, 6 July 2006

### **Editorial: Why grumble**

Why should separatist leaders of the State nurse a grievance against the European Union EU? From a spate of their statements it appears that they cant believe that an EU team has come and gone without meeting them. They are taken aback that it is something that has happened for the first time in 14 years. It seems, however, that facts have been mixed with fiction in this instance. At least one leader has admitted that he was approached but he had spurned the handshake. Prof Abdul Ghani Bhat of the moderate Hurriyat Conference had actually rejected the idea of participating in a meeting just for the sake of it. He has clearly stated that he refused because he wanted it to be accompanied by a formal agenda. He had conveyed his views to the visitors without beating about the bush. According to him, he wanted the conversation to revolve around specific issues..

Greater Kashmir, 6 July 2006

### **Protesters tell troopers to leave (Arif ShafiI Wani)**

Srinagar, July 5: It was a throwback to early 1990s. Hurriyat Chairman Syed Ali Shah Geelani walked past the CRPF camp in Munwarabad. Hundreds of people shouting pro-freedom and anti-troops slogans marched with him. The troopers of this camp had faced public wrath after killing a disabled musician on Friday night. The nervous, probably guilt-ridden CRPF men peeped through the half-opened windows of their camp and listened to the veteran leader. Inayat ke Qatilon ko phansi do (Hang the killers of Inayat), Geelani shouted. The protesters accompanying him growled too in front of the CRPFs 46 battalion camp..

The Indian Express, 6 July 2006

### **Hizb sends out friendly vibes to moderates (Riyaz Wani)**

Srinagar, July 5: In an indication of the changing dynamics in Kashmir's separatist politics, Hizbul Mujahideen, Kashmir's largest militant outfit, has called upon Mirwaiz Umar Farooq to forge unity with the hardline faction of Hurriyat led by Syed Ali Shah Geelani and the other major separatist leaders outside Hurriyat fold. Hizb has also, for once, spoken in conciliatory tones about the moderates and said that though their methodologies might be different, there was no difference on the common separatist objective..

Daily Excelsior, 6 July 2006

### **LeT activist beheaded in Mendhar**

Jammu, July 5: An Over Ground Worker (OGW) of Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT) was killed by the LeT militants near his house at village Sarharda, about six kms from Mendhar tehsil in Poonch district while an Army jawan, who had come to his house on leave, was shot at in his house at Chensar, Gandoh in two separate incidents last night. Official sources said two to three militants entered into the house of 22 year old Mohd Imtiyaz son of Mohd Hussain in Yougal Mohalla at village Sarharda in Mendhar tehsil at 11 pm last night. They kidnapped Imtiyaz, who had come to his house recently from Saudi Arabia where he had gone for working to evade arrest, and took him to a nearby field..

Daily Excelsior, 7 July 2006

### **Azad Govt creates 8 new districts, 3 sub divisions, 12 tehsils**

Srinagar, July 6: In a historic decision, Ghulam Nabi Azad's coalition Government today decided to create 8 new districts, 3 sub divisions and 12 more Tehsils in Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh regions. Government also decided to constitute a Finance Commission, a Police Reforms Commission as also a Cabinet Sub Committee for monitoring complaints regarding violation of human rights by Police and security forces besides implementation of the recommendation of J&K State Human Rights Commission. It also decided to constitute a fresh Delimitation Commission which would be tasked to create 25 percent new Assembly constituencies in Kashmir, Jammu and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK)..

Daily excelsior, 7 July 2006

### **Editorial: Keep it up**

Any event that helps reunite the people must be welcomed. It is all the more heartening if a step is taken to repair the ruptured communal bonds in the Valley. A report, therefore, from Kulgam will lift everyones spirits. It is indeed a happy development that a large number of Kashmiri Pandits have paid obeisance at a holy shrine in the south of the Valley after nearly two decades. They have described their trip as emotional homecoming. Their joy must have known no bounds on the completion of the pilgrimage. Living as migrants in this city and elsewhere they must have dreamt about it in the intervening period after their trials and tribulations had begun in the late 1980s..

Daily Excelsior, 7 July 2006

### **Militant killed, grenade seized**

Srinagar, July 6: A militant bid to attack the Amarnath pilgrims was today foiled by the Central Reserve Police Force CRPF personnel when they gunned down a top commander of Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Toiba LeT at Kangan, about 40 km from here, this evening, a CRPF spokesman said. He said personnel of CRPF's 158 battalion cordoned off a locality in the Kangan area this evening following a tip-off. During the operation, the CRPF personnel were fired upon by the militants. The fire was effectively retaliated and in the ensuing encounter, a self-styled area commander of the banned LeT, identified as Shaheen, was killed, the spokesman said..

Indian Express, 7 July 2006

### **Cabinet panel to look into rights abuses in Kashmir**

Srinagar, July 6: Concerned at the rise in allegations of rights violations by security forces, the Jammu and Kashmir government on Thursday announced the formation of a cabinet sub-committee to look into the issue. A lot of complaints regarding human rights violations have been received recently. The government is seized of the matter and has decided to set up a cabinet sub-committee to look into it, Chief Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad told reporters after chairing a meeting of his cabinet here..

Daily Excelsior, 8 July 2006

### **Five killed, 30 injured in militant strike**

Srinagar: Five persons were killed and 30 injured when militants today lobbed a grenade at the entourage of former Jammu and Kashmir minister Sakina Ittoo, who escaped with minor injuries, officials said. The dead in the attack at Kulgam in Anantnag district included a former National Conference legislator, while Ittoo, two policemen, a CRPF jawan, a special police officer and two children were among the wounded, officials said..

Daily Excelsior, 8 July 2006

### **Editorial: Too good**

Ever since the coalition Government came into power about four years ago it has been on the horns of a moral dilemma. Having pledged the implementation of the Wazir Commission report during electoral campaign as well as in the Common Minimum Programme (CMP) it was unable to implement it. The obvious reason was that the

proposed figure of new districts was more in the Jammu region --- three to be precise --- against only one in the Kashmir valley. Administratively it would have ensured a perfect balance had the Wazir recommendations been implemented in toto. That would have ensured nine districts each in Jammu and Kashmir provinces..

Greater Kashmir, 8 July 2006

**Editorial: National Interest and Security Reasons (M. Ashraf)**

The two most mis-used phrases in this part of the world these days are, the National Interest and the Security Reasons. Anybody can commit any wrong under the cover of these phrases. Both the neighbouring countries use Kashmir as the bench mark to assign meaning to these terms. In fact, a thorough analysis reveals that the two phrases connote a different meaning altogether in real practice. The National Interest is actually Vested Interest and the Security Reasons are practically Flexible Reasons to cover various actions of the persons taking recourse to projection of these in different situations and locations to suit various requirements which may not always pertain to security. What is Indias National Interest? The welfare of millions of people below poverty line or keeping Kashmir as a colony against the wishes of local people?..

Daily Excelsoir, 8 July 2006

**Sex scam accused create ruckus in CJM's court**

Srinagar, July 7: Nine persons facing charges of involvement in Srinagar sex scandal today created an uproar in the court of Chief Judicial Magistrate (CJM), lamenting that the trial against them was not running fairly. Shouting slogans against CBI, Bar as well as Judiciary, relatives of the detainees ransacked furniture in the courtroom following which CJM deferred hearing of the CBI challan to July 15th..

Daily Excelsior, 9 July 2006

**5 killed, 42 injured in grenade attack on Sakeena Itoo (Ahmed Ali Fayyaz)**

Srinagar, Jul 8: Even as National Conference leader and former Minister Sakeena Itoo survived umpteenth militant attempt on her life---with minor splinter injuries---in Kulgam today, five of her party activists got killed and 42 others sustained injuries when she was targeted outside a shrine at the newly created district headquarters. Those killed on the spot or on way to hospital included senior NC leader and former MLA Ghulam Nabi Dar. The grenade attack on Sakeena Itoo, whose father had been gunned down by militants in 1994 and who has herself survived over a dozen militant strikes since 1996, has evoked widespread condemnation from all quarters..

Greater Kashmir, 9 July 2006

**IED blast in Pulwama**

Srinagar: Militants triggered off an IED device in south Kashmir's Pulwama district on Saturday, damaging a vehicle of paramilitary CRPF troops. Reports said militants set off IED device at Bandna on Saturday morning when a CRPF Gypsy was passing through the area. The vehicle was totally damaged in the explosion. However a local news agency CNS quoting defense officials said no casualty was reported in the incident. The CNS also quoted a Hizbul Mujahideen spokesman claiming that seven soldiers were killed in the incident..

Greater Kashmir, 9 July 2006

**Editorial: How long? (Jehangir Ali)**

.. Shame on those who do not realise the gravity of situation and do not bother about the human dignity which stands trampled. We don't even have the right to protest or to question. We live in a state of fear. A situation where uncertainty rules. A place in which we can reasonably and preferably refer to the dissenters in the past tense. A state of law breakers and law evaders can't be a fertile ground for real peace. If one were asked to praise Kashmir, a huge number of books would be written. Kashmir is a garden of eternal spring, or an iron fort to the palace of kings-a delightful flower-bed or an ocean of beautiful lakes and gardens. Violence in the last 17 years has changed the whole scenario and corruption at the hands of state has rubbed salt to the wounds of Kashmir..How long will the common masses of Kashmir face the state sponsored violence is a question that haunts everybody's imagination. How long will our sacrifices go down in history without making a difference? How long will we continue to protest and get teargased and lathi charged..

Daily Excelsior, 9 July 2006

**Editorial: Please spare the Army! (Dr. Jitendra Singh)**

One of the surest ways to ruin an army is to assign it civilian operations and expect the results which it was never trained for. One of the surest ways to spoil an army soldier is to ask him to share assignment with a State policeman

and then expect him to remain unaffected by the menace of expecting bribes, playing truant and all other ills that plague a civil cop. Over 15 years of deployment in anti-militancy operations in Kashmir has been a great learning experience for the Indian Army but what both the Army personnel as well as their political bosses overlook is that in the process the Army soldier has inadvertently unlearned much of what was once a part of the rich Army tradition subtly passed down from one generation of Army personnel to the next..

Indian Express, 10 July 2006

### **Kashmir grenade attack mastermind killed**

Srinagar, July 10: The mastermind behind the grenade attack on National Conference Legislator Sakina Ittoo was killed in an encounter with security forces in Anantnag district, official sources said. Reyaz Ahmad Lone, self-styled District Commander of Hizbul Mujahideen outfit, was killed at Kuchpora near Qazigund, 80 km from Srinagar on Sunday night, the sources said. Lone and two others were identified by police as the mastermind behind the grenade attack on Ittoo on Saturday in Kulgam in which five persons, including former NC Legislator Ghulam Nabi Dar were killed and 30 others, including Ittoo were injured..

Daily Excelsior, 10 July 2006

### **Pak military regime does not want Kashmir solution: Benazir**

New Delhi, July 9: Former Pakistan Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto has dismissed as ridiculous the perception that only a military regime could solve the Kashmir issue, saying the problem allows them to live a luxurious life as the emperors of Rome did. Why would the military commit suicide by finding a solution to the Kashmir dispute which allows them to live a luxurious life as the emperors of Rome did? she said in an interview when asked about a perception that only a military regime in Pakistan can solve Kashmir problem because they directly benefit from it..

Greater Kashmir, 10 July 2006

### **Hindu, Muslim, Sikh Itehad!**

Srinagar: Cutting across religious lines, the Muslims, Sikhs and Hindus in Tral area of south Kashmir's Pulwama district on Sunday raised a joint forum to fight social evils. News agency KNS reported that the residents called a congregation at Khankah-e-Moula Tral. Besides Muslims, it was attended by a large number of people from Sikh and local Pandit community who had come from 126 villages of the area. The people unanimously raised an organization named Islami Forum with noted cleric Moulana Noor Ahmed Trali elected as its head, the KNS said..

Daily Excelsior, 10 July 2006

### **Child dies, 6 hurt in 2 grenade explosions**

Srinagar, July 9: A child died and six others were injured in two separate mysterious explosions in Kulgam and Sopore today, while as police claimed that it identified the militants, responsible for yesterday's grenade attack on National Conference rally in Kulgam. Informed sources told the Excelsior that police today identified the militants, who were involved in the grenade throw near Ziyarat crossing Kulgam yesterday, in which five civilians were killed..

Daily Excelsior, 11 July 2006

### **Hizb loses 3rd Distt Commdr in a month**

Srinagar, July 10: A day after claiming to have identified the masterminds of the grenade blast that killed 5 persons and left 42 others injured in Kulgam, Jammu and Kashmir Police has claimed to have eliminated one of Hizbul Mujahideen's seniormost commanders in south Kashmir. Riyaz Ahmed Bhat alias Aftab of Laroo, Kulgam, was functioning as his organisations District Commander and was, according to Police, responsible for over a dozen identified killings. Meanwhile, security forces averted a possible tragedy, apparently aimed on the cavalcade of Holy Mace, when they detected and neutralised a powerful IED at Letapora on Srinagar-Jammu national highway a little before midnight. Chhari Mubarak caravan is passing through the same spot on Tuesday..

Indian Express, 11 July 2006

### **How azad these Kashmir polls?**

The election for the eighth Azad Jammu and Kashmir National (AJK) Assembly are scheduled to be held on Tuesday. With a peace process ongoing between India and Pakistan and with increased emphasis being given to the involvement of Kashmiris on both sides, the outcome of the election is significant for all the three actors: India, Pakistan and the Kashmiris...It is unfortunate that the world has chosen to ignore this political drama in PoK.

Compare this process with what happened during the 02 J&K assembly election, conducted under the eyes of the world. There were many obstacles, with militants raising the level of violence and terrorising the local people against participation. No such issues confront the PoK poll, as the powers that be in Islamabad make all the crucial decisions. As for the Northern Areas, nobody is asking questions about when an election will be held there..

Indian Express, 11 July 2006

### **Valleys first POTA convict gets 15 yrs in jail**

Jammu, July 10: Ten years for possessing binoculars, a live AK 47 cartridge and a wireless set. This is what marked the first conviction under various provisions of the Prevention of Terrorist Act (POTA), which now stands already repealed. Announcing the verdict in an open court, Third Additional Sessions Judge Wani N.D., who is also presiding officer under TADA/POTA, said a lenient view had been taken by him keeping in view the young age of the accused who is 25. The accused had also stated himself to be the first offender, the judge pointed out..

Greater Kashmir, 11 July 2006

### **Editorial: Bridges not walls**

True to the glorious Valley traditions, the Kashmiris have yet again made clear that they could not be divided on the basis of religion, creed, caste or colour. People professing different faiths joined hands at Tral and formed a united forum to fight social evils. This is not an ordinary development especially when vested interests are out to create a wedge between various communities at this crucial juncture. And this is not the first time when the people of Kashmir have defeated the nefarious designs of the vested interests..If different communities are willing to live together in peace and tranquility, nobody should create a wedge between them in the name of politics or so-called normalization. The Pandits and the Muslims, meanwhile, need to come closer at this crucial juncture..

Daily Excelsior, 12 July 2006

### **8 killed, 43 injured in 5 grenade attacks in Srinagar**

Srinagar, July 11: Eight persons died and 43 sustained injuries when suspected militants carried out a series of grenade attacks, targeting domestic tourists in Dalgate and Lalchowk areas of Civil Lines in this capital city today. While efforts of certain sections were underway to hold security agencies and traders of neighbouring tourist states responsible for today's bloodletting, common people chased away and captured a grenade thrower immediately after he left about a dozen persons—including some tourists—wounded in a blast near Tourist Reception Centre (TRC). Jammu & Kashmir Police held Lashkar-e-Toiba responsible for all of these attacks and claimed that the Baramulla youth captured by the people and handed over to Police was an operative of that guerrilla organisation. Police has also, for the first time, announced a government job for anybody helping in arresting a grenade throwing militant besides cash reward of Rs 1.00 Lakh for anybody providing specific information about the movement or whereabouts of such a militant..

Greater Kashmir, 12 July 2006

### **Editorial: No Hollow Probes**

It did not augur well with Kulgam. On Monday two days after the status of this hilly Tehsil in South of Kashmir was raised to the district level there was a bloodbath. Five innocents including a former MLA were killed and a former Minister in the National conference government along with forty five others was injured. Who were behind this grenade attack like many such incidents in the past it is also shrouded in mystery. Unlike in the past when all blames were put straight on the militant organizations, the National Conference leadership this time took a departure. In a statement the party blamed its arch rival the People Democratic Party (PDP) for the attack. This was sixth attack on the former N.C. minister hailing from the area during past few years..

Indian Express, 12 July 2006

### **Why target the hapless tourists, asks a bewildered Valley**

Srinagar, July 11: It was a normal day broken by a series of loud blasts. Shopkeepers at Regal Chowk were going about their work as usual when a loud thud followed by screams of people in a white Maruti caught their eye. Within seconds, they were on the spot, trying to douse the flames that threatened to engulf the car while the occupants stood startled at a distance. A group of intrepid young men rushed to get water from a nearby drain to snuff out the flames that continued to flare up. Riyaz Ahmad, a local shopkeeper, said: First I thought the car had caught fire, but after seeing the splinters I realised that it was an attack. Like many others he wondered why the militants had targeted a car carrying tourists..

Indian Express, 12 July 2006

### **Attacks aimed at derailing peace process, says Duggal**

New Delhi, July 11: INDIA today said the serial grenade attacks in Srinagar today were aimed at derailing the peace process in Jammu and Kashmir and the J&K Police had leads about the culprits who would be nabbed very soon. Union Home Secretary V K Duggal told reporters here and made a veiled attack on Pakistan, saying that training of militants, supply of equipment and their support structure was not possible without strong backing..

Daily Excelsior, 13 July 2006

### **Gulmarg too under attack, 7 tourists injured**

Srinagar, July 12: In a span of 24 hours after conducting serial blasts at tourists in Srinagar on Tuesday, suspected terrorists yet again today targeted tourism directly and hurled a grenade towards their vehicle at Gulmarg injuring seven tourists, including three women. In the meanwhile, a tourist, injured in one of the grenade attacks on Tuesday, succumbed to injuries at SMHS Hospital today. Two militants were killed in further violence in Valley, while as two Army troopers received injuries, when militants lobbed grenade towards them in Sopore. According to sources, unidentified grenade thrower showed up again at Gulmarg today and hurled a grenade towards a tourist vehicle JK01Y-0549. Sources said that six tourists were inside the bus, when the grenade was thrown near general bus stand, Gulmarg..

Daily Excelsior, 13 July 2006

### **Editorial: Let logic reign in tricky situation**

Hardly a day passes without a loud voice being heard for and against demilitarisation in the State especially the Valley. Proponents of the idea feel that it would help usher in peace. However they dont care to answer a crucial question. How can the absence of security forces help achieve the intended objective if terrorists are permitted to have an unbridled run? This is a very straight query. Since there is no credible answer the opponents of demilitarisation find themselves on a strong wicket. This class of people includes those who being in power are accountable to people for maintaining law and order. There is a third category of leaders who advocate a middle path. According to them there should be measured reduction of troops. Prime Minister Manmohan Singh had put the issue in correct perspective at the second roundtable in the Summer Capital. He had pointed out that demilitarisation was not viable till there was terrorism. In sharp contrast the mischief inherent in Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf's repeated demand for demilitarisation in the Kashmir region is too obvious..

Greater Kashmir, 13 July 2006

### **Editorial: JULY 13**

In contemporary Kashmir history July 13 is a historic milestone. It is not on this day that the freedom struggle in Kashmir was born but it was on this day that the simmering volcano of hate and resentment against the feudal Dogra rulers erupted and assumed the shape of massive tide. The despotic, tyrannical and sectarian rulers, who were awarded this paradise by the British under the sale deed of 1846, had made life of people particularly Muslims miserable. The Dogra rulers outdistanced their predecessors the Sikhs in suppressing the people of the state. There might have been instances of suppression of other communities as well but the Muslims that constituted eighty percent of population were the worst hit and were in fact the targets. There were almost no Muslims in the government services..

Indian Express, 13 July 2006

### **Attacks an attempt to destabilise govt**

Samba, July 12: Chief Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad today said that yesterday's grenade attacks in Srinagar were an attempt to destabilise his government and the whole country. 'Some external agencies want to destabilise the country through terrorist attacks in connivance with locals in different parts of the country, said the Chief Minister. Addressing a well-attended rally here today, the Chief Minister said that attacks had even reached Mumbai. Azad said there was some external agency working with locals connivance which we have to find out. He said now these acts were going beyond savageness. Even wild animals only kill to satisfy their appetite, but the hunger of terrorists to kill innocent has become unlimited, he said..

Greater Kashmir, 14 July 2006

### **Al-Qaeda in Kashmir?**

Srinagar, July 13: A local news agency CNS on Thursday quoted a caller claiming the formation of a new militant outfit, named Al-Qaeda Jammu and Kashmir. The caller, the CNS said, identified himself as Abul Hadeed,

spokesman of the outfit, and welcomed Tuesdays blasts in Mumbai that killed at least 200 people. Abul Hadeed said the Al-Qaeda was floated in Jammu and Kashmir on Thursday, the news agency said. The spokesman, quoting the outfit Amir, Abu Abdur Rehman Al-Ansari, said that the Mumbai blasts were a reaction to excesses committed against minorities in India particularly Muslims. Saying that world would soon be made aware of its objectives, mission and its stand, the spokesman urged Indian Muslims to adopt, what he called, the path of Islam, freedom and Jihad..

Daily Excelsior, 14 July 2006

### **Editorial: Can terror and talks go together? (O P Modi)**

..The fact is that nothing has changed on the ground. The terrorists camps in PoK and Pakistan continue to flourish, obviously, with full knowledge and support of the Pakistan's army. The General cannot claim ignorance of what his army and the ISI are doing in PoK and Pakistan. The Confidence Building Measures (CBM) are being mocked by the Pakistani rulers declaring them as trifles. It is repeatedly stated by them that these measures cannot resolve the core issue that is Kashmir. While seeing off the first batch of passengers from PoK on the opening day of the Poonch-Rawalakote bus service the PoK Prime Minister said such CBMs cannot resolve the dispute between India and Pakistan..

Daily Excelsior, 14 July 2006

### **Sakeenas poser to Govt and militants: Why (Ahmed Ali Fayyaz)**

Srinagar, July 13: National Conference (NC) leader Sakeena Itoo, who was injured in umpteenth attempt on her life in Kulgam last week, suspects political hand behind repeated attacks on her and other NC leaders in south Kashmir. She also disputes Police fiction that the slain Hizbul Mujahideen District Commander Riyaz Ahmed Bhat alias Aftab was the mastermind of the grenade blast that left 5 people dead and 42 others, including herself, wounded in Kulgam on July 8 last..

Daily Excelsior, 14 July 2006

### **Two girls, two boys shot dead; 2 injured**

Poonch, July 13: Two girls and two boys of minority community were shot dead and two others including a minor girl were injured in a militant attack on two families at village Mangnar, about 10 kms from here last night. Militants plot to carry out another massacre of minorities in City Forest locality, about one km from the town simultaneously last night, was, however, foiled by alert security personnel, who encountered the ultras and forced them to escape. Tension gripped the town this afternoon when a large number of villagers from Mangnar marched to the town here along with dead bodies of four civilians and held a demonstration against removal of an Army PMG post from the village four months back, leading to the killings..

Indian Express, 15 July 2006

### **Key break in grenade case, say J&K police, explore Mumbai links (Majid Jahangir)**

Srinagar, July 14: Helped by investigators from the Intelligence Bureau, the J-K Police are said to have achieved a significant breakthrough in their probe into the Srinagar serial blasts which preceded the Mumbai blasts on Tuesday. There were reports that Lashkar-e-Toiba militant Mudasir Gujjari, alias Raju, was arrested from Baramulla this morning after a massive manhunt. And that he was being questioned for any possible links to the Mumbai blasts. These reports were denied by Inspector General, Kashmir range, S M Sahai and by officials in Delhi. Raju is alleged to be the mastermind behind the Srinagar grenade attacks on tourists and the strike on a Congress rally in Srinagar..

Indian Express, 15 July 2006

### **Hundreds protest in Kashmir over attacks on tourists**

Srinagar, July 14: Hundreds of hotel and restaurant owners shouting tourists are our guests, dont kill them protested in Kashmir on Friday against a series of recent attacks in which a dozen visitors died, police said. Thousands of tourists fled Kashmir after militants killed eight holidaymakers in a string of grenade attacks earlier this week, dealing a serious blow to the Himalayan regions recovering tourist industry. Four others died in attacks in May. Expose killers, dont harm tourists, the protesters shouted near the resort town of Gulmarg, west of Srinagar. The owners of ponies that ferry tourists along streets joined the protests..

Greater Kashmir, 15 July 2006

### **Editorial: Targeting Tourists**

For the first time in last sixteen years tourists visiting the valley have become specific targets of violent attacks. There had been a couple of incidents involving foreign tourists in the past but the individuals involved in such attacks faced these because of some other considerations than being tourists. Some Israelis were attacked for the role of Israel against Palestinians. Five foreign trekkers were kidnapped to force western countries to take initiative in getting some of the prisoners released. However, very rarely were outsiders attacked just because they were tourists. It is only recently that a series of attacks have taken place against tourists with the specific intention of harming and scaring them away. In spite of the local Police claiming arrest of some of the persons involved in such attacks nothing definite has been disclosed, nor have any persons been charged..

Indian Express, 15 July 2006

### **No role for Al-Qaeda in Kashmir: Separatists (Riyaz Wani)**

Srinagar, July 14: Perhaps fearing international indignation and condemnation, separatist leaders as well as the the Hiz-bul-Mujahideen have ruled out Al-Qaeda setting up base in Jammu and Kashmir, a day after a man, reportedly identifying himself as an Al-Qaeda spokesman, called up a local news agency announcing the arrival of the outfit in Kashmir. The separatists and the Hizb today dismissed any such possibility. Hurriyat chairman Mirwaiz Umar Farooq, while admitting to the Kashmir movement having a military dimension to it, said it certainly did not have any role for the Al-Qaeda. The claim, according to him, was a ploy to defame them..

Daily Excelsior, 15 July 2006

### **Two militants killed in Bandipore**

..Two militants of Lashkar-e-Toiba militant outfit were killed in an overnight gunfight on Friday morning. Defence spokesman Colonel VK Batra said that Army killed two militants in Mir Mohalla, Aragam Bandipore. Giving out the details of the incident, Batra said that troopers late Thursday night observed suspicious movement in the village. He said that the persons moving suspiciously were challenged. However, they ran away and took a refuge inside a residential house, he said, adding that it was later observed that there were two militants, armed with weapons. He said that the militants tried to flee from the house but were fired upon by troops conducting search operations..

Daily Excelsior, 16 July 2006

### **Two HM activists among 6 exfiltrators arrested**

Srinagar, July 15: In yet another grenade attack at a crowded place today, militants lobbed a grenade at Beehama Chowk in Ganderbal, en-route Amarnath Yatra, killing one civilian and injuring six others. People took to streets against the attack and protested demanding identification of the killers, who have been unleashing terror on civilians. A Lashkar-e-Toiba militant was killed in an encounter with troopers at Kulgam. Police also foiled an exfiltration bid in Lolab, Kupwara and arrested six persons, including two HM activists..

Daily Excelsior, 16 July 2006

### **Sex scandal case shifted to Sessions Court**

Srinagar, July 15: While as the judicial remand of sex scam accused senior bureaucrat Iqbal Khanday and hotelier Riyaz Kawa was extended for 14 more days, Chief Judicial Magistrate Srinagar today ordered the case of bail applications of sex scam accused be committed to Principal District and Sessions Judge Srinagar for further trial. Amid tight security arrangements, nine accused of infamous sex scandal were brought to CJM Court Srinagar today. At around 1430 hours, nine accused, DIG BSF SK Padhi, DSP Mohammed Ashraf Mir, former AAG Anil Sethi, kingpin Sabeena, her husband Abdul Hameed Billa, Bashir Ahmed Langoo, Shabeer Kala, Mehraj-ud-din Malik, hotelier Riyaz Kawa, Masood Ahmed and Iqbal Khanday were brought to the court..

Greater Kashmir, 16 July 2006

### **Civilian killed in Ganderbal blast**

Srinagar, July 15: Two militants and a civilian were killed in separate incidents across the state since Friday evening, police and reports said Saturday. A civilian was killed in a grenade blast in Ganderbal on Saturday. Reports said suspected militants lobbed a grenade towards a CRPF bunker at Beehama Chowk which exploded on road, causing injuries to six persons. One injured Ghulam Muhammad Khan son of Azam Khan of Beehama succumbed to his injuries at SKIMS Soura..

Daily Excelsior, 17 July 2006

### **Attack on tourists against Kashmiriyat: CM**

Srinagar, July 16: Chief Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad today said that those forces who are bent to wreck the

economy and progress of Jammu and Kashmir particularly Kashmir valley through their nefarious designs of terror by terrorizing innocent civilians and guest tourists are real enemies of Kashmiriyat and the people of State. Speaking on the occasion of laying of foundation stone of Qazigund-Kulgam road. The Chief Minister while remembering recent grenade incident at Kulgam said that it was unfortunate that the people who were celebrating creation of Kulgam district were showered with grenades and their jubilation was converted in to mourning. He expressed his surprise that militants are out to maim and kill innocent civilians for no fault of theirs. He said even militants have gone to the extent of killing tourists resulting in complete devastation to our prestigious tourist industry..

Daily Excelsior, 17 July 2006

### **Two big groups infiltrate**

Jammu, July 16: In major infiltration attempts, two big groups of militants were reported to have succeeded in cutting fencing and forcing their way into the Indian territory from Manjakote and Balakote sectors in twin border districts of Rajouri and Poonch during last two nights while two civilians were shot dead by the militants at village Khari in Hill Tak area of Darhal in Rajouri district. Official sources said a group of at least 12 militants cut fencing wires and infiltrated in this side of Line of Control (LoC) from forward village of Tarkundi in Manjakote sector at 3 am today..

Daily Excelsior, 17 July 2006

### **Editorial: Infiltration continues unabated (J N Raina)**

Pakistan wants to keep its powder dry, while engaging India in peace talks, which have failed to yield tangible results. President General Pervez Musharraf has adopted a dubious role. He is deluding India into believing that its (Indias) Armys pull out from the Kashmir valley will lead to normalcy. Pull out troops from Baramulla, Srinagar and Kupwara, and in return ensure there is no militancy inside. It is Musharraf speaking. In that event (after troops pull out from the valley) Pakistan would join fight against terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir. What a grand strategy? It simply means direct intervention by Pakistan. He wants the Indian forces to remain in barracks so that Pakistan Army men, disguised as Mujahids, will take over the valley on the pretext of fighting militancy. Then what remains?..

Indian Express, 18 July 2006

### **Al-Qaeda turns out to be hoax (Majid Jahangir)**

Srinagar, July 17: Four days after an unidentified caller announced the arrival of Al-Qaeda in Jammu and Kashmir, the preliminary investigations by the J-K Police has revealed that it was a hoax call. The call was made from a Public Call Office (PCO) in downtown Srinagar to a local news agency. It was only a hoax. The preliminary investigation reveals that there is no concrete evidence that suggests Al-Qaeda has set its base in Kashmir, Deputy Inspector General (DIG) of Police, Kashmir, Farooq Ahmad told The Indian Express. In fact, a top security officer involved in the counter-insurgency operation in Kashmir argues that if the international militant group Al-Qaeda had to set its base in Kashmir, it would have announced this to Al Jazeera TV - a Qatar-based Arab Television channel or posted it on their websites..

Daily Excelsior, 18 July 2006

### **Editorial: 11/7 : Another round of serial bombings (Sreedhar)**

As the information about serial blasts in Srinagar and Mumbai is pouring in, the immediate question that arises is why Srinagar and Mumbai was selected by terrorists? Or have they planned in other major cities in India also. The information that has been given to the media so far indicate that these attacks are suspected to be the handiwork of Pakistan based terrorist organizations like Lashkar-e-Toiba, Hizbul Mujahedin and al-Mansoorian through their local contacts. Interestingly enough, the soft objects chosen by the terrorists indicate they want immediate publicity and perceive such acts will demoralize the Indian authorities. In addition, in recent passed every terrorist organization gave a high level of autonomy to its local units and allow them to indulge in acts of violence at their discretion..

Daily Excelsior, 18 July 2006

### **Militants escape from Bandipore**

Srinagar, July 17: The militants holed up in Arin Bandipore have escaped safely even as the Defence throughout the day claimed that two militants were gunned down there. Early morning SMS from Defence spokesman claimed that two militants were killed in Bandipore encounter, which had started on Sunday evening. However, at the end of the

day, the morning alarm proved to be hoax as militants, holed up inside a residential house who had engaged troopers in gunfight last night, had escaped in darkness, which was later confirmed by Defence spokesman Colonel Batra before the Excelsior..

Greater Kashmir, 18 July 2006

### **Dont allow events to derail peace: Mirwaiz**

Srinagar, July 17: Urging India and Pakistan to continue the dialogue process and foil the evil designs of those who want to derail it, Hurriyat Conference chairman Mirwaiz Moulvi Umar Farooq said any move to discontinue peace process at this stage would be very unfortunate. If India pull out from the peace process, it will provide an opportunity to those who want to derail it, the Mirwaiz told reporters after about three-hour-long Executive Council (EC) meeting at the Rajbagh headquarter here this afternoon..

Daily Excelsior, 19 July 2006

### **Editorial: Lets focus on real enemy**

The ugly shadow of terrorism is once again looming large over the sub-continent. It has generated a heated debate. There is no dearth of elements even within the country who are advising New Delhi to desist from over-reaction vis-à-vis Pakistan. Their approach is well intentioned. It is spurred by the feeling that there ought to be no break in the peace process between India and Pakistan. They are no less alarmed by the deafening second round of serial Mumbai bomb blasts and continuing violence in the State particularly the Kashmir region. All that they desire is that these dastardly incidents should not be permitted to come in the way of meeting of hearts between the two neighbouring countries. However, they are diffident to answer an important question. How long a government repeatedly under merciless attacks by the militants having their wires pulled from Pakistan can keep silent without risking its credibility? It is true that there are people in Pakistan who are equally worried about the strain that gory events can cause on relations between New Delhi and Islamabad..

Daily Excelsior, 19 July 2006

### **Militants kill student**

Srinagar, July 18 : Militants killed a eleventh class student in presence of large number of people in south Kashmir, whileas four persons, including a retired police employee were arrested in fake currency racket, official sources said today. They said a group of five militants kidnapped Mukhtar Ahmad Sheikh during a cricket match at Kulgam in south Kashmir district of Anantnag last afternoon. Militants later took the boy to his village Nowgam Shopian tied his hands and legs and killed him in presence of a large number of people, including women. Later, the militants managed to escape..

Daily Excelsior, 19 July 2006

### **Fresh directions issued to arrest influential men**

..In a significant direction, DB has directed the State Government and the Principal District and Sessions Judge Srinagar to arrange legal counsels for the defence of the accused at the cost of the State exchequer. It has directed the State Government to ensure safety of all the accused and the witnesses as also to provide safe accommodation and PSO, if necessary, for the minor victim Yasmeena. According to another direction, a safe and secure place has to be arranged for the trial of the case by a Sessions Court. This has paved the way for conducting the trial inside Srinagar Central Jail which is out of bounds for common public. As per this direction, the trial shall be held incamera..

Greater Kashmir, 19 July 2006

### **Editorial: Rehabilitate them**

When the coalition government assumed office in November 2002, rehabilitation of former militants and the sufferers was assured. However, more than three years have passed and the promise remains unfulfilled. The inaction of the government has wreaked havoc with the ill-fated families that lost their livelihood or their bread earners in one way or the other during the past eighteen years. While the kin of the deceased accuse government of apathy and indifference, the former militants curse the day when they got lured by offer of jobs and a decent life..

Daily Excelsior, 20 July 2006

### **Opinion: India - Pak peace process run up to the breaking point (Sarila Handoo)**

New Delhi and Islamabad reached an agreement that truck service should be allowed on Srinagar -Muzaffarabad road to give a fillip to trade between the two sides of Jammu and Kashmir. For this representatives of Chambers of

trade and industry had to visit each others country to work out the details. Six months have passed but Pakistan is yet to give clearance to the delegation India has to send. ..To get back our India-Pak fixation, infiltration from across the Line of Control has been continuing unabated. It has in fact gone up in the last three months. Incidents of violence in Jammu and Kashmir at the hands of Pakistan sponsored terrorists have been on the rise. Among the eliminated and arrested militants, a large number have been identified as Pakistani nationals..

Greater Kashmir, 20 July 2006

### **Editorial: Probe needed**

It is a jigsaw puzzle. A riddle may not be for the government agencies but for the common people. A persistent question haunts man in the street who were the people behind the recent grenade attacks at various places in the city of Srinagar and what were motives behind. These sporadic grenade attacks which were carried out in the civil lines and at tourist places were not without ulterior motives. There are all indications that they were targeted at hitting the newly reborn state tourist industry. One may not agree with the assertion made by the state government or by other Government of India agencies operating in the State that the situation in the state was fast returning to normal. One may not buy the theories propounded by various agencies that the militancy in the state was on the wane..

Daily Excelsior, 20 July 2006

### **Assault on cops: 2 killed, one hurt**

Srinagar, July 19: Militants in separate attacks at various places in Srinagar, today opened fire at three cops and killed two of them while as third was critical, while as a local militant was killed in an encounter at Braripora Pulwama. A bomb hoax at Srinagar Saddar Court created panic in the court complex this afternoon. According to informed sources, militants in three separate incidents opened fire, from a close range, at State Police personnel today, killing two of them and injuring the third..

Daily Excelsior, 20 July 2006

### **HC refers sex transfer case to CJ**

Jammu, July 19: Justice YP Nargotra of the State High Court Jammu Wing, in the criminal transfer petition filed by the relatives of the five alleged accused in Srinagar sex-scandal transfer case from the Court of Sessions Judge Srinagar to a Court of competent jurisdiction at Jammu, said that the Division Bench of this Court is already seized of the matter and as such in the considered opinion of this Court, it shall be appropriate that this issue is also considered by the Division Bench. The High Court directed that this petition be placed before the Chief Justice for appropriate orders..

Asian Age, 21 July 2006

### **Opinion: Bharat Mata under siege in Poonch (Balbir K. Punj)**

The Poonch district administration has imposed a ban on raising the slogan Bharat Mata ki Jai (Victory to Mother India) during the Budha Amarnath Yatra. Raising the slogan could lead the pilgrim to jail, even if he evades the reprisal of Muslim fundamentalists. Many Hindu and allied nationalistic organisations are vehemently protesting the ban. But I can discover distinct reasons why this ban should have a shock value for the nation. First, it would scandalise our illusion that Islamic terrorism is restricted to Kashmir Valley in J&K. The situation in Jammu portends to be equally bleak. Second, it is another example of how we are appeasing de-nationalising elements to preserve a farcical secularism..

Indian Express, 21 July 2006

### **More than 1,300 militants ready to infiltrate into J&K**

Jammu, July 20: More than 1,300 militants are currently in a chain of launching pads along the Line of Control in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, ready to infiltrate into Jammu and Kashmir to step up militant activities in the state, top security sources said in Jammu on Thursday. Intelligence inputs and ground reports collected by various security agencies put the figure of militants at launch pads at 1,300, the sources said..While 1,000 militants are operating in the Kashmir Valley, 600 are operating in the mountainous belt of Jammu region, the sources said adding that a large number of militants are now active in the Poonch-Rajouri-Gool belt..

Greater Kashmir, 21 July 2006

### **JKLF expresses concern over HR abuses**

Srinagar, July 20: The Jammu Kashmir Liberation Front has expressed serious concern over human rights abuses and razing down houses of people. The JKLF acting chairman Advocate Bashir Ahmad Bhat while addressing

people at Bandipora condemned human rights abuses and expressed sympathy with victims of recent troop action. He lauded High Court Bar Association for boycotting the diamond jubilee of the High Court which will be addressed by the president of India..

Daily Excelsior, 21 July 2006

**Editorial: Too obvious**

The report of an attempt by militants to blow up a Sufi shrine in Poonch district on Wednesday is bound to cause concern everywhere. It is in line with their wicked objective to create communal divide. By now they have adopted this strategy too often. Every time they have failed they have become more desperate. They have hardly spared any top place of worship in the country. There is a long list of religious centres they have defiled. Akshardham in Ahmedabad, Kashi-Vishwanath in Varanasi and Jama Masjid in the national capital all figure in their blood-stained catalogue. In the State too they have been virtually run amok on more than one occasion. In the Valley they have ruthlessly targetted Charar-e-Sharif and violated the sanctity of Hazratbal. They had succeeded in converting the Raghunath Temple complex in this city into a battlefield at least for some time..

Indian Express, 22 July 2006

**Reality hits home (Muzamil Jaleel)**

Security agencies are unable to find a Kashmir link to the Mumbai serial train bombs, unlike the past. The arrests of three suspects, two from Bihar, and a third from Navi Mumbai, made on Friday, in fact, hint at a new phase of terror that is autonomous and perpetrated by a network of home-grown foot soldiers. J&K Director General of Police Gopal Sharma only underlined this when he told the media recently that the pattern of the Mumbai serial blasts is new. No clues have led to groups operating in the state. This apparent lack of a link between the serial bomb blasts in Mumbai with the epicentre of militancy has thrown up a new challenge for security agencies, especially as it substantiates the viewpoint that an autonomous network has finally come up in the country outside the borders of J&K..

Daily Excelsior, 22 July 2006

**Khanday to Kochak at jail: Ask Mr Baig to resign and fight my case (Ahmed Ali Fayyaz)**

Srinagar, July 21: With the stalemate continuing over non-availability of legal counsels to 16 sex scam accused, State Legal Services Authority (SLSA) today offered the services of an advocate to the senior IAS officer Iqbal Khanday...Khanday shouted haplessly. Please ask Mr Baig, if he is sincere to me, to resign and fight my case. Will he do that? Khanday argued that Mr Baig's Government was by law competent to intervene and shift the trial of sex scam case from Srinagar to some other place under section 178 of CrPC but nobody in the Government had a feeling of the agony of the detained officials..

Indian Express, 22 July 2006

**Pak cracks down, infiltration figures speak otherwise (Shiv Aror)**

New Delhi, July 21: Notwithstanding Islamabad's claim that it has cracked down on militant infrastructure in PoK and despite a consolidated effort to beef up border defences on the Indian side, figures speak strongly for themselves. Infiltration by militants into J-K across the LoC has more than doubled in the first six months of this year, compared to the corresponding January-June period in 2005, and shows no signs of abating. With the Mumbai blasts being connected to militant outfits operating out of J-K and persistent grenade attacks in the Valley, pressure is mounting on the security forces to overhaul its anti-infiltration approach..

Daily Excelsior, 22 July 2006

**6 militants killed in Kulgam**

Srinagar, July 21: With two more militants getting killed in yet another gunbattle in Kulgam today, a top wanted militant of Lashkar-e-Toiba, Irshad Ahmed Bhat, has been found dead among the four militants killed in the overnight encounter at Sursunoo, in south Kashmir. Official sources told the Excelsior that troops of Rashtriya Rifles 01 Bn and SOG Kulgam swooped on a militant hideout at Wanpora Redwani, in Anantnag-Kulgam belt of south Kashmir, on a specific information today. During the operation, an encounter took place between the holed up militants and security forces in which two militants got killed..

Indian Express, 23 July 2006

**Have you seen this man? (Muzamil Jaleel)**

He is known by many names. Some call him Bilal, some Hyder, yet others Salahuddin. But proper nouns dont do

him justice. Hes the operations chief of the LeT in India, the groups topmost commander in Jammu and Kashmir. And all thats definitely known about him is that he has a massive build—he is said to be 6.5 ft tall, with a size 14 in shoes—and lives in the Bandipore jungles. Theres a Rs 5-lakh state bounty for information leading to his arrest, but little chance it will be claimed anytime soon..

Greater Kashmir, 23 July 2006

### **I revealed many names: Sabeena**

Srinagar, July 22: Sabeena, the kingpin of sexual abuse case, on Saturday shouted in the court of Principal District and Sessions judge, claiming that she disclosed many names before the CBI but they have not been arrested so far, local news agency KNS said. Sabeena said that CBI should be questioned and asked why it didnt arrest those big guns whose names she had disclosed during investigation..

Indian Express, 23 July 2006

### **Lawyer to plead for sex racket accused**

Srinagar: Defying the ban imposed by the Kashmir High Court Bar Association, a Kashmiri lawyer has decided to plead the cases of the four of the accused in J-K sex abuse scam. Molvi Ajaz, a senior Kashmiri lawyer, on Saturday took up the cases of former minister Ghulam Ahmad Mir, Deputy Superintendent of Police Ashraf Mir, Mehraj Din and Masood Ahmad, both alleged pimps..

Daily Excelsior, 23 July 2006

### **Most wanted LeT militant Mudasar Gujri arrested (Ahmed Ali Fayyaz)**

Srinagar, July 22: Police and intelligence sleuths have finally arrested this years most wanted militant, Mohammad Rafeeq Sheikh alias Mudasar Gujri alias Raju, from Baramulla. Director General of Police Gopal Sharma has confirmed his arrest and claimed that a large number of grenade blasts, including those of June 12 in Jammu and serial blasts of April 14 and July 11 in Srinagar, have been solved with Rajus arrest..

Daily Excelsior, 24 July 2006

### **Cong leader, 4 militants among 7 killed in Valley**

Srinagar, July 23 :A Congress leader and four militants were among seven people killed while ultras attacked a Police Station in the Kashmir valley overnight official sources said. They said militants shot dead a Congress Block President Fateh Mohammad Dar at Larkipora in south Kashmir district of Anantnag this afternoon. The 60-year-old Dar had gone Larkipora to attend a Congress meeting. He was shot dead when he was going to offer mid-day prayers, sources said. Militants threw a grenade at Handwara Police Station last evening. The grenade exploded in the compound causing injuries to one person. Troops of 62 Rashtriya Rifles (RR) launched a search operation at a village in Shopian in south Kashmir district of Pulwama after receiving an information about the presence of militants there, the sources said..

Daily Excelsior, 24 July 2006

### **Editorial: Change across LoC**

Now that the election dust has settled down in Azad Kashmir it appears that Sardar Attique Ahmad Khan is set to become the new Prime Minister of the occupied country across the Line of Control. As the party president he has steered the Muslim Conference (MC) to a simple majority. Responsible sections in Pakistan have noted Islamabad's tilt towards the young Sardar. He and his father Sardar Abdul Qayum Khan, the ageing but effective supreme head of the MC, have already held at least one meeting with Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf. This has been possible after they passed a loyalty test with ruling Pakistan Muslim League (PML) president Chaudhary Shujaat Hussain giving MC election tickets for refugee seats in the mainland..

Greater Kashmir, 24 July 2006

### **Editorial: They need help**

Notwithstanding serious concern expressed by the Bar Association and various human rights organizations, there seems no end to the woes of the detainees. Not only are the detainees subjected to physical torture in some jails, the authorities cause mental agony to them and their relatives by denying them the important right to defend themselves in a court of law. Time and again the detainees have complained of non-production in the courts on hearing days. The matter was raised with the concerned repeatedly but nobody has shown interest till date thus delaying the administration of justice. The state is bound to produce the undertrials in the courts but in this neglected land the prisoners are left high and dry for want of escorts..

Daily Excelsior, 24 July 2006

### **President lauds Kargil soldiers**

Srinagar, July 23: Lauding the security forces for their services during war and peace times, President A P J Abdul Kalam said it is because of their vigil on our borders that we sleep well at night. In his message to the Ati Vishnu Maha Yagna Samiti, Jammu, the President expressed happiness for organising Sarva Dharma Pooja for the peace of the departed soul of Kargil martyrs. Our armed forces have done the nation proud during war or in peace-keeping missions abroad, Dr Kalam said..

Daily Excelsior, 25 July 2006

### **After Mudasar Gujri, Hanief Bengali too arrested (Ahmed Ali Fayyaz)**

Srinagar, July 24: Forty-eight hours after Director General of Police Gopal Sharma announced cash reward of Rs 3 Lakh on his head, Srinagar District Police today arrested Mudasar Gujri's successor and most wanted militant of Lashkar-e-Toiba, Hanief Bengali alias Faheem from a downtown locality. Meanwhile, Baramulla District Police has arrested a top commander of Hizbul Mujahideen who had returned from Pakistan on a valid Indian Passport. SSP Srinagar said that two AK-47 rifles, two pistols, one hand grenade, one wireless set and one IED circuit were recovered in the wake of Bengali's sustained interrogation. He claimed that one of the two AK rifles recovered from Bengali was that of a J&K Police constable gunned down, alongwith another constable, by militants in Soura in May this year..

Indian Express, 25 July 2006

### **J&K sex scandal: IAS officer plea transferred**

Srinagar: A single Bench of the J&K HC on Monday transferred the Criminal Revision Petition of IAS officer Iqbal Khanday who is in jail after he was arrested by CBI for his alleged involvement in the sex abuse scam to the Division Bench. A petition filed by another accused, DIG BSF K C Padhi, seeking the transfer of the sex abuse case to Jammu, has also been transferred to the Division Bench..

Daily Excelsior, 25 July 2006

### **Editorial: Beastly act**

Who will not be moved by the tragic story of 17 year old Mukhtar Ahmed Sheikh in the south of the Valley? The details given in this newspaper make a heart rending reading. The innocent boy was playing cricket with friends and neighbours in his Chak Kachhdora village. Four or five Pakistani militants of Lashkar e Toiba appeared on the playfield and kidnapped him. They then took him to Vehil Nowgam about two kilometres away. In the premises of a mosque he was made to position himself like a sacrificial lamb. His head was severed with a sharp butchers knife..

Greater Kashmir, 25 July 2006

### **Sardar Attique Khan is PaK PM (Tariq Naqash)**

Muzaffarabad, July 24: Muslim Conference president Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan was sworn in as Pakistan administered Kashmir prime minister here on Monday. PaK President Sardar Muhammad Anwar Khan administered him oath at a pompous ceremony attended by around 3000 people from different walks of life, including PaK assembly and council members, civil and military officials, members of the superior judiciary and MC workers. The 51-year old MC chief is the seventh prime minister of PaK after the introduction of parliamentary form of government in the region in 1975..

The Tribune, 25 July 2006

### **40 injured in lathicharge on protesters**

Srinagar, July 24: Nearly 40 persons, including 12 police personnel were injured when the police fired in the air, burst tear gas shells and resorted to repeated lathicharge to disperse a mob, including women and children at Arpora, 10 km from here today. The police also took in custody 15 demonstrators, who were demanding repair of roads in their area. Similar demonstrations were also held on the same issue at Balhama, Zafran colony and Sampora..

Daily Excelsior, 26 July 2006

### **He left 2 dead, 11 wounded for Rs 2,100**

Srinagar, July 25: After arresting Lashkar e Toibas most wanted militants, Mudasar Gujri alias Raju and Hanief

Bengali alias Faheem, Police today claimed to have arrested yet another militant of the organisation who had lobbed two grenades at Ganderbal and left two persons dead and 11 injured. Meanwhile, militants have left six civilians wounded in grenade blast at Narbal, on Srinagar-Gulmarg Road, and security forces have killed three infiltrating militants in an encounter in Bagtoor area of Gurez sector in Baramulla district. Informed sources disclosed to the Excelsior that in search of the militant who had lobbed two grenades at Ganderbal on June 21 and July 15, Ganderbal Police picked up seven suspects for questioning..

Daily Excelsior, 26 July 2006

### **Dy SPs legal counsel receives threat of death**

Srinagar, Jul 25: While senior IAS officer Iqbal Khanday failed to get the services of a legal counsel to defend him in the infamous Srinagar sex scandal weeks after his arrest by CBI, a Division Bench of J&K High Court today ordered the arrest of all the accused in 12 sex related cases following cancellation of their bail. Hours after making arguments in defence of the sex scam accused Dy SP, Mohammad Ashraf Mir, at the court of Principal District & Sessions Judge Srinagar, Mr Mohammad Yaqoob Mir, advocate Maulvi Aijaz complained to senior Police officials that one Yasmeen's father in law Abdur Rasheed Darzi had threatened to kill him..

Greater Kashmir,, 26 July 2006

### **Perspective: Killing of tourists (Dr. Sheikh Showat Hussain)**

During the past fifteen years of militancy there have been few incidents of attacks on tourists and Yatris. Recent attacks in succession have caused anxiety among people in Kashmir. The attacks are attributed to the different actors of the on-going scenario. But none has claimed the responsibility. Militant groups including the largest indigenous group Hizbul-Majahideen too have condemned these acts. Who so ever may be responsible the acts deserve nothing but condemnation on several counts. First and foremost of these is that attacks on civilians even in war times are not permitted by moral values in general and Islam in particular..

The Tribune, 26 July 2006

### **Kalam to visit J&K from July 28**

Srinagar, July 25: Arrangements are being made for the visit of the President, Dr APJ Abdul Kalam, who is paying a two-day visit to Jammu and Kashmir from July 28. During his visit, the President would be visiting Ladakh and Kashmir divisions, this being his second visit to the frontier cold desert region of Ladakh. Dr Kalam has already visited the three regions of the state in June 2003, while he visited the border areas following the devastating earthquake of October 8 last year..

Daily Excelsior, 26 July 2006

### **PoK PM wants to travel to J&K**

Islamabad, July 25: Seeking resumption of the Indo Pak dialogue to resolve Kashmir and other contentious issues, newly-elected Prime Minister of Pakistan-occupied Kashmir Atiq Ahmad Khan said he wanted to travel to Jammu and Kashmir and wished that J&K Chief Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad visited PoK..

Indian Express, 27 July 2006

### **Another grenade attack within 48 hrs: 7 hurt**

Srinagar, July 26: Within 48 hours of a grenade attack at Narbal, the militants again made their presence felt in the same area by hurling a grenade on an Army vehicle at Magam. Seven civilians sustained serious injuries. The police claimed to have arrested the militant who had lobbed the grenade. This morning, a militant lobbed a grenade towards an Army vehicle at Magam Chowk on Srinagar-Gulmarg highway. The grenade, however, missed the target and exploded on the roadside, causing serious injuries to seven civilians who were taken to different city hospitals. The condition of two of the injured civilians is stated to be critical. The impact of the blast was so severe that dozens of vehicles passing on the road got damaged..

The Times of India, 27 July 2006

### **Enemy within: 1 more soldier held (M Saleem Pandit)**

Srinagar: The Army on Wednesday said it had arrested another soldier of J&K Light Infantry (JAKLI) for his alleged links with terror outfit Lashkar e Taiba. He is the third man to be arrested from the same regiment and also belongs to Gursai village of Mendhar district in Poonch, like the other two men arrested earlier. TOI had reported on Wednesday that two soldiers, Lance Naik Mohammad Shakeel and Sepoy Abdul Haq were picked up by military intelligence last week for alleged links with LeT..

Greater Kashmir, 27 July 2006

### **Jamaat elders bury hatchet (Riyaz Masroor)**

Srinagar, July 26: Leading lights of the Kashmir's oldest religio-political outfit, Jamaat e Islami, appear willing to bury their hatchet following a war of words over the dual membership agreement between Jamaat and Syed Ali Geelani's Tehreek e Hurriyat. Amir of Jamaat Syed Nazir Ahmad Kashani on Wednesday readily accepted Geelani's four-point peace plan, which involves a major amendment in the organization's constitution and a state level convention of Jamaat workers (Arkaan)..

The Times of India, 27 July 2006

### **Victims age may take sting out of J&K sex scandal (M Saleem Pandit)**

..Aijaz, who was representing Dy SP Ashraf Mir at a sessions court here, said the victim Yasmeena was actually above 18. He said she had applied for a government job under the state's compassionate appointment scheme in a divisional commissioner's office, giving 1981 as her year of birth. That would make Yasmeena at least 25 years old. Aijaz, who has been expelled from Kashmir Bar Association for representing an accused in the case and faces the wrath of Dukhtaran-e-Millat activists, also claimed that CBI had destroyed evidence to prove that the victim was a major..

Daily Excelsior, 27 July 2006

### **Opinion: After serial blast (Ms. V. Sri Valli)**

After Srinagar and Bombay serial blasts, it is becoming increasingly clear that the terrorist organizations based in Pakistan have played the key role in planning and executing the serial blasts. The intelligence agencies are narrowing down Lashkar e Toiba (LeT). However, two significant events have come to the light. Foremost is; involvement of the locals in these acts of terrorism and violence to divide the Indian republic's secular fabric. The LeT apparently feels that how can the Indian Muslims stay away from their Jihad against India?..

Daily Excelsior, 28 July 2006

### **32 injured in 3 grenade blasts**

Srinagar, July 27: Even as security forces today killed two infiltrating militants in Boniyar area of Uri sector, as many as 32 persons including 27 civilians sustained injuries in three grenade blasts in Sopore, Pampore and Kulgam. Informed sources told the Excelsior that a suspected militant lobbed a hand grenade towards an Army convoy near Police Station of Sopore when it was on way from Sopore to Bandipore at 0955 hours. It hit the targeted vehicle but bounced back and exploded on road causing injuries to 18 civilians..

Daily Excelsior, 28 July 2006

### **Editorial: No cause for alarm**

The Excelsior disclosure about the alleged involvement of three Army men in a Lashkar e Toiba (LeT) module has come true. We thus have the satisfaction of bringing to the light a truth however unpleasant it may be. It is presently engaging the attention of the nation. This component of the LeT led by a hardcore militant who has since been arrested was planning a fidayeen attack on former Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah at his Bhatindi residence at the outskirts of this city. This should not surprise anyone because Dr Abdullah has never hidden his aversion to a theocratic Pakistan. He is inheritor of an altogether different legacy that the neighbouring country detests..

Daily Excelsior, 28 July 2006

### **CBI re registers 2 cases in sex scam**

New Delhi, July 27: The CBI has re-registered two cases in connection with the sex scandal in Kashmir valley and booked nine people, including Sabina, the alleged kingpin of the racket. The CBI, after going through the investigations conducted by the Jammu and Kashmir Police in two cases, re-registered them following directions from Jammu and Kashmir High Court, official sources said. Both the cases have been chargesheeted by the local police and now the CBI would be approaching the court to stop trial following directions of the High Court for re-investigations, the sources said..

Indian Express, 28 July 2006

### **Srinagar turns into fortress (Mir Ehsan)**

Srinagar, July 27 A Day ahead of President APJ Kalams Srinagar visit, extraordinary security arrangements have been made. The Sher e Kashmir International Convocation Complex (SKICC), where president is addressing the

joint session of JK Legislature, has been turned into a fortress and is out of bound for the civilians. Amid strong intelligence inputs that militants might try to strike in the city on the occasion of Presidents visit, three tier security arrangements have been made around the city..

Greater Kashmir, 28 July 2006

**Opinion: Article 370 (Ghulam Nabi Hagroo)**

In today's (Thursday 05/06/2006) daily papers it has been reported that Atal Behari Vajpayee, the Ex-Prime Minister of India has asked for the removal of the Article 370 of the Constitution of India. And Shyam Saran, foreign secretary while addressing a group of journalists of Pakistan has asked: Pakistan government is not trying to control them (Jihadis), so how confidence can come in these circumstances..

Daily Excelsior, 29 July 2006

**Kalam moots 9 point development plan for J&K**

Srinagar, July 28: President Dr APJ Abdul Kalam today suggested a nine point developmental plan for militancy hit Jammu and Kashmir, including a peoples movement to eliminate terrorism and the creation of an economic zone along the Line of Control. In his maiden address to a joint session of the State Legislature here this afternoon, Dr Kalam said citizens must be allowed to participate in large numbers in the movement to curb terrorism and the Government should authorise law enforcement agencies to adopt a mission mode approach to make the state free from militants..

Daily Excelsior, 29 July 2006

**Khandays remand extended by 14 days**

Srinagar, July 28: Chief Judicial Magistrate (CJM) Srinagar today extended the detained IAS officer Iqbal Khanday's judicial remand by 14 more days. Meanwhile, an advocate defending some accused in the Srinagar sex scam has moved the court of Principal District and Sessions Judge Srinagar, seeking records of all SRO-43 cases from the offices of Divisional Commissioner of Kashmir and Deputy Commissioner of Srinagar..

Kashmir Times, 29 July 2006

**Editorial: Musharraf warns the hawks**

For decades, if not generations, Pakistanis have grown up with the belief that Kashmiris want them, Kashmir actually belongs to them and they had been cheated by the wily Hindus of India, who had grabbed the state through some sort of a pre-emptive action, with Mountbatten's connivance. For all these years they had striven and dreamt of liberating Kashmir from the Indian yoke and thus to live up to their God-given historic mission. Now, for the first time in their history, President Musharraf has not only demonstrated Pakistans willingness to allow the status quo to last, with only minor adjustments and has even advised the Kashmiri separatists to see the reality and seek a better future through discussions with the Government of India..

Greater Kashmir, 29 July 2006

**Time for demilitarization: Mirwaiz to Kalam**

Srinagar, July 28: Mirwaiz Omar Farooq, chairman of a faction of Hurriyat Conference, on Friday urged President APJ Abdul Kalam to help resolve the Kashmir issue as per the wishes of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. Addressing Friday congregation at Jamia mosque at Pahalgam in south Kashmirs Islamabad district, Mirwaiz, who is also chief priest of the Valley, said situation in the conflict ridden state was alarming and serious..

Greater Kashmir, 29 July 2006

**Opinion: Journey of judiciary in Kashmir (Dr Farooq Fayaz)**

..The High Court of Jammu & Kashmir during last 75 years of its existence has attained enormous growth in strength of stature. Its strength from a 3 Judge Court has risen to 14 Judges. Great legal stalwarts of the Country have adorned the Bench of the High Court from time to time. The legal luminaries of the Country before and after independence appeared before the Court. Their assistance helped the High Court to acquire a place of eminence in the country. The High Court and the District Judiciary in the State like other parts of the Country is confronted with challenges like huge arrears, escalating litigation costs and frustrating delays in dispensation of Justice..

Daily Excelsior, 30 July 2006

**Kalam for fast judicial process to settle terror cases**

..To make the judicial system more effective, Kalam advocated simplifying law, discarding irrelevant old acts and

making the system such that the dispensation of justice takes place fast and in a fair manner. As the judiciary was the ultimate protector of human rights and final resort for dispensation of justice, the citizens of India look up to this institution with, he said. He advised all to make the judiciary more effective and said every interface has to be transparent and pure, then only an integrated solution from judiciary will emanate..

Daily Excelsior, 30 July 2006

### **CBI files chargesheet against 2 ex-Ministers, IAS officer**

Srinagar, July 29: Quite a number of senior bureaucrats, politicians and influential businessmen heaved a sigh of relief as CBI completed second part of its investigation into the infamous Srinagar sex scandal and filed its chargesheet against five more of the accused, including two former Ministers Ghulam Ahmed Mir and Raman Mattoo and a senior IAS officer, Mohammad Iqbal Khanday..

Greater Kashmir, 30 July 2006

### **Editorial: Sexual harassment nudges dignity**

An act of sexual harassment by any pervert in a government office, private institution or other semi governmental organization cant be construed as reflective of entire social set up. Yet such kind of acts take place thus taking toll on the psyche of the victim who fails to nail the pervert due to legal and social ambiguity. Shazia Khan talked to women who have been subject to such harassment and reveals their state of mind..

Indian Express, 30 July 2006

### **J-K courts must fast-track terror cases, says President (Riyaz Wani)**

Srinagar, July 29:President APJ Abdul Kalam today marked out a role for the Jammu and Kashmir judiciary in the peace mission for the state, saying it should develop a fast track mechanism for cases related to terrorism and help in protecting human rights of the citizenwithout prejudice to national security..

Day Excelsior, 31 July 2006

### **CJI for co-ordination among legislature, executive, judiciary**

Srinagar, July 30:Chief Justice of India, Justice Y K Sabharwal today said for dispensation of justice, there has to be a total coordination among legislature, executive and judiciary.Speaking after laying the foundation stone of Srinagar District court complex, coming up at an estimated cost of Rs 82 crore on an area of 229 kanals here today he said a congenial environment has to be created for working of judicial system. He said the coordination between the three would help for dispensation of justice. Justice Sabharwal said the new court complex is of utmost importance for litigating public and would help in speedy dispensation of justice. He stressed for enhancing resource allocation for infrastructure development for judiciary and said that all care needs to be taken of litigating public and witnesses as well while creating facilities in th new court complex.

Indian Express, 31 July 2006

### **JK infiltration bid foiled, four terrorists kille**

Srinagar, July 31:Four terrorists who were trying to infiltrate into Indian Territory were killed in Baramulla district of Jammu and Kashmir, a defence spokesman said. Army troops guarding the Line of Control (LoC) in Gurez sector of the district on Sunday night observed movement of armed terrorists trying to sneak into the Valley from across the border and challenged them, he said.Four intruders were killed in the ensuing gun battle, the spokesman added..

Daily Excelsior, 31 July 2006

### **Opinion: Terrorism is inherent in PoK (Samuel Baid)**

A few years ago an angry feminist told a women conference in Lahore that the condition of women in Pakistan would not improve unless the two-nation theory was discarded. The conference was discussing the ordinance under which rape victims were charged with the crime of fornication because they could not produce four pious eyewitnesses. Linking the two-nation theory with crimes against women and other weaker sections of society might have sounded very preposterous to many Pakistanis..

Daily Excelsior, 31 July 2006

### **SCBA for talks with Kashmir Bar**

Srinagar, July 30: Describing as unfortunate the Kashmir High Court Bar Association boycott of the courts Diamond Jubilee celebrations, the Supreme Court Bar Association today said it would like to have a dialogue with

local bar on crucial issues concerning the legal fraternity. It is unfortunate that Kashmir Bar did not participate in the Diamond Jubilee celebrations..