



Maximum : 29°C
Minimum : 15°C
Humidity : 42%

SUNSET
Today 07:44 PM
SUNRISE
Tomorrow 05:19 AM

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In COVID-Cornered New York City, This Kashmiri Doctor Is SHOWING THE WAY

It was quite a scene when the officials from the New York Police Department recently lined up as cheerleaders to applaud Dr. Parvez Mir's efforts in saving the lives of his patients. The modest medic from mountains he calls home gracefully received the ovation and assured that the fight would continue. While Dr. Mir is saving hundreds of lives in a borough of New York City called Brooklyn through his grit and determination, he is leaving no stone unturned in helping the doctors back home. But the fight back is coming at a huge cost. "My family members are quarantined from me," Dr. Parvez Mir, Director of Intensive Care Unit at Wyckoff Heights Medical Centre (WHMC) in Brooklyn, told Kashmir Observer. Dr. Mir got to know about the first patient infected with COVID-19 on March 10, when an old woman was admitted to WHMC....

.....PANORAMA
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News Digest

Covid-19 Nodal Officer Suspended

Pulwama- District Administration on Monday suspended a senior Animal Husbandry Officer Pulwama over alleged dereliction of duties and mismanagement of a COVID care centre situated in the district headquarters. The officer was designated as the Nodal Officer of the facility and already cautioned against any laxity on his part, said a senior officer of the administration. "The officer was found absconding and unauthorisedly absent from the district headquarters" • P-02

3.2 Magnitude Quake Hits J&K

Srinagar- An earthquake of magnitude 3.2 hit Jammu and Kashmir in the early hours of Monday, but there were no reports of any damage, officials said. The quake occurred at 4.36 am at a depth of five km. There were no reports of any damage due to the tremors, the officials said.

Mughal Road Re-opens Partially

Srinagar- The authorities in Kashmir Monday ordered the partial opening of Mughal Road - the alternate road connecting the valley with the rest of the country - for transportation of fruit produce to markets outside. "It is hereby notified for information of general public/ fruit growers that the Mughal road is hereby declared open for downward vehicular traffic exclusively for transportation of fresh fruits viz-a-viz Cherry, Peach, Plum, Apricot to outside State w.e.f. 16.06.2020," • P-02

2 Members Nominated for PSA Board

Srinagar- The Jammu & Kashmir government has appointed two members of an advisory board constituted to review cases under the Public Safety Act. The Home department has appointed former judges, Aijaz Ahmad Mir and Davinder Kapoor, as members of the Board. "Sanction is hereby accorded to the appointment of Aijaz Ahmad Mir (Retd. District and Sessions Judge) and Davinder Kumar Kapoor (Retd. District and Sessions Judge) as members of the Advisory Board. constituted" • P-02

90% Indians Binge On Streaming

New Delhi: As data consumption touches over 11GB per user a month in India owing to the lockdown times, 90 per cent people are spending more time on content streaming, e-learning, entertainment and social media, a new survey said on Monday. Nearly 61 per cent consumers are streaming more content than they were before the lockdown, said the 'EY Digital Consumer Survey'. "Time spent on video streaming has surged 1.2 times to average 4.2 hours per user per week," the findings showed. »PAGE 08

Covid-19 Claims 3 More, J&K Death Toll Climbs To 63

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: An elderly man from South Kashmir's Shopian district, who was tested positive for COVID-19 a few days back, died at CD hospital on Monday, officials said.

According to Dr Saleem Tak, Medical Superintendent at CD hospital 80-year-old man who was admitted in the hospital on June 13, died on Monday evening. He said the patient was suffering from Diabetes, Hypertension and had other underlying problems including COPD.

Earlier an 18-year-old youth succumbed to the virus becoming the youngest victim of the infection in J&K so far.

The youth hailing from Handwara area of north Kashmir's Kupwara district died at SMHS hospital here, the officials said.

He was admitted to the hospital on June 12 as a medico-legal



File Pic: Abid Bhat

case involving assault, the officials said.

They said his swab sample for the novel coronavirus was taken

the next day and later returned as positive.

Youth had serious head injuries besides bilateral pneumonia,

the officials said, adding that the patient passed away around 3 am.

In the second fatality of the day, a 62-year-old man »PAGE 02

179 New Cases Test Positive, J&K Tally Rises to 5220

SRINAGAR: The number of COVID-19 cases in Jammu and Kashmir climbed to 5220 as 179 new cases including 97 paramilitary CRPF personnel tested positive for the pandemic on Monday.

Among new 179 new cases, 14 were tested positive at CD hospital, 6 at Army's Command Hospital Udhampur and rest at other hospitals.

Official sources said that while 126 cases were confirmed at viral diagnostic laboratory at SKIMS Soura, 53 cases were reported

from various other laboratories. Giving the district wise break-up of the cases, officials said

Anantnag district reported 79 followed by Shopian (19), Srinagar (15), Kupwara (10), Pulwama (8), Udhampur (7), six each in Baramulla, Budgam and Samba, Ramban (4), three each in Kulgam, Bandedipora and Reasi besides Ganderbal (2) while one each from Kathua and Kishtwar. These sources said that among

the cases, 14 were confirmed at the CD hospital's diagnostic laboratory and included a soldier

(31) from 42 Rashtriya Rifles stationed at Tral, a 40-year-old policeman from Awantipora police station, two pregnant women—both

aged 32-year-old each, one from Wanpoh and Rahmoo—besides as many shopkeepers—45-year-old female from Duderhama Ganderbal »PAGE 02

79 CRPF Jawans Test Covid-19 Positive

SRINAGAR: 79 CRPF personnel, an army soldier and a policeman were among 183 fresh cases of novel coronavirus reported in Jammu and Kashmir on Monday. The cases, which also include two pregnant women and as many shopkeepers, take the overall tally of the covid-19 patients in the J&K to 5224.

Official sources said that while 126 cases were confirmed at viral diagnostic laboratory at SKIMS Soura, 57 cases were reported from various other laboratories.

Among the 57 cases, 14 were reported from Srinagar • P-02

High Tension: Pak Detains 2 Indian HC Staffers For Over 10 Hours

NEW DELHI/ISLAMABAD- Pakistani authorities on Monday detained two officials of the Indian high commission in Islamabad in a case of alleged "hit and run" and released them after over 10 hours following India's strong demarche.

The Pakistani action is seen as a retaliation for the expulsion of two Pakistani High Commission officials by India on charges of espionage two weeks back.

Pakistani media reported that the two Indian staffers were arrested by Pakistani agencies for their alleged involvement in a "hit and run" case, but there was no official word on it from Islamabad. The non-diplomat staffers



File Pic

were back in the high commission after they were released by Pakistani authorities, government sources said, adding they left the mission in a vehicle at around 8 AM (Pakistan time) but did not reach their destination.

In the morning, the two staffers in Islamabad went missing following which India took up the matter with the Pakistan Foreign Office, sources said.

Within hours of the development, India summoned »PAGE 02

Swain Replaces Srinivas As J&K CID Head

JAMMU- The Jammu and Kashmir administration on Monday carried out changes in top police brass, replacing Dr B Srinivas as the head of CID with R R Swain, who returns to the cadre after 15 years, officials said here.

Srinivas, a 1990-batch IPS officer, who was brought back from his central deputation in 2018 to help the state police revive the intelligence apparatus, has been posted as Commandant General of Home Guard and Disaster Force.

He will also head the Fire and Emergency Services.

During his second tenure as the Additional Director General of CID, the state saw intelligence carried out operations leading to several kills in the erstwhile state and later the union territory. »PAGE 02

CBI Alerts States On Sale Of Methanol-Made Fake Hand Sanitiser

NEW DELHI: The CBI has alerted the state police departments and other law-enforcement agencies about an Interpol input warning on a racket selling fake hand sanitiser, and another racket that poses as PPE and other COVID-19-related medical suppliers, officials said on Monday.

After getting the input, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) immediately alerted the police authorities to remain vigilant about gangs using the modus operandi to make quick money, the officials said.

Agency sources said some criminals are approaching hospitals and health authorities posing as representatives of manufacturers of PPE kits and other COVID-19-related protective gear.

Exploiting the shortage of such



articles, they take online advance payments from authorities and hospitals but after the receipt of payments, no deliveries are made. Interpol has also given inputs about fake hand sanitiser being made using methanol, a highly-toxic substance, as the base, the officials said.

Instances have been reported from other countries of use of spurious hand sanitiser during »PAGE 02

LAC Standoff: In Conversation with 'Dragon on Our Doorstep' Co-Author

Auqib Javed

In his 2017 acclaimed book that he co-authored with his Force Magazine colleague, Ghazala Wahab, Pravin Sawhney writes that should New Delhi find itself involved in a border war with Beijing, it will lose.

Much of this, he argues, has to do with "China's superior military power, close coordination between the political leadership and the military, the ability to take quick decisions, the potent anti-satellite and cyber warfare capabilities".

Even more shockingly, the book reveals, "regardless of popular opinion, India today is not even in a position to win a war against Pakistan".

This, the authors argue, has nothing to do with Pakistan's nuclear weapons.

"It's because while India has been focused on building military force (troops and materiel needed to wage war) Pakistan has built military power (learning how to optimally utilize its military force). In this lies the difference between losing and winning."

Over the years, Sawhney writes, despite the many treaties and agreements between the two nations, border clashes (including the disastrous 1962 war) and disagreements over Tibet and Jammu and Kashmir have complicated the Sino-India relationship. Since 2008, when it was recog-

nized as an economic power, China has become assertive after keeping a low profile for decades, he says.

"Today, this Himalayan balancing act of power is clearly tilted towards China, in whose view there is room for only one power in Asia."

In this rise, the authors of Dragon on our Doorstep argue, Pakistan has emerged as China's most trusted and crucial partner.

The partnership between China and Pakistan, whether in terms of military interoperability (ability to operate as one in combat), or geo-strategic design (which is unfolding through the wide-sweeping One Belt One Road project), has serious implications for India, he says. "The best that New Delhi can do is



try and manage the relationship so that the dragon's rise is not at the

cost of India."

Three years after the book was

published, Sawhney's views on the current Sino-India standoff at Line of Actual Control (LAC) are being sought for their incisive defence insights.

In an exclusive chat with Kashmir Observer's Special Correspondent, the veteran military expert talks about the Dragon's Ladakh move and New Delhi's Kashmir management post-Article 370.

Security smokescreen created around Sino-India standoff is still making the picture hazy at LAC. As somebody who has a sharp defence eye, what do you see?

People's Liberation Army has reportedly made multiple incursions across a broad front of over 100km from north Sikkim to northeast La-

dakh. Three important incursions are in north Sikkim, Galwan valley (both not listed as disputed areas) and Pangong Tso.

With north Sikkim incursion, India's seemingly impenetrable defence-line overlooking Chumbi Valley has been bypassed from east and west with increased threat to the Siliguri corridor - India's sole land link to northeastern states.

In Galwan area, the PLA has reportedly intruded three kms inside India's perception of the Line of Actual Control (LAC) and has built permanent defenses and concrete bunkers holding all heights overlooking the operationally critical 225km Darbuk-Shyok-Daulat Beg Oldie (DSDBO) road leading »PAGE 02