

P9 LIFE & TIMES

COVID VACCINES CAN HAVE SIDE EFFECTS - THAT'S A GOOD THING The new coronavirus vaccine appears to be extremely effective - blocking serious illness entirely in randomized trials .

THE D IN DDC

As the name of the DDC elections itself suggests, they are being held around the discourse of "development". The obrogation of Article-370 was itself done around the ..



P12 OBSEVER OUTPOST

GOOGLE SERVICES GO DOWN; GMAIL, YOUTUBE AND MORE... Google-owned services on Monday experienced a major outage in India and elsewhere. According to Downdetector .



Guidelines

Vaccination

Drive Issued

NEW DELHI: Vaccinating 100-200 people in each session per day,

monitoring them for 30 minutes af-

ter administering the shots for any

adverse event and allowing only

one beneficiary at a time are among

the guidelines issued by the Centre

for the COVID-19 inoculation drive.

According to the guidelines is-

sued to states recently, the COVID

Vaccine Intelligence Network (Co-

WIN) system--a digitalised plat-

form--will be used to track enlisted

beneficiaries for the vaccination

and anti-coronavirus vaccines on a

At the vaccination site, only

pre-registered beneficiaries will

real-time basis.

For COVID-19



triggered by an emotion of either desire or fear." —Brian Tracy



Two Cops Booked For Extortion

SRINAGAR: Two policemen have been booked for demanding extortion from a man, hailing from south Kashmir's Pulwama district, reports said Monday.

Head Constable Ajaz Ahmed and Selection Grade Constable Bashir Ahmed were booked by police under various sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) after a man from Pulwama district identified as Ghulam Jeelani accused them of extortion, news agency KNT reported Monday. More On P8

Man Booked For Post On 'Temple Arson'

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir police on Monday filed a case against a social media user for spreading rumours about the arson at a temple here in this capital city with the intention to disturb the + religious harmony.

In a statement issued here on Monday evening, a police spokesperson said that a case has been registered against a social media user, who had posted about an alleged act of arson at Arya Samaj Temple Motiyar Rainawari, when the fact is that "no such incident has occurred and the said temple is safe and intact".

7 Gamblers Held In City: Police

SRINAGAR: Police on Monday

PDP Leader's PSO Shot Dead In Srinagar

NOINION



Securitymen stand guard at the house of PDP leader Parvaiz Bhat after his PSO was shot dead . KO Pix Abid Bhat

SRINAGAR: Militants opened fire at the residence of a PDP leader in the Natipora area of the city on Monday, killing his personal security officer (PSO).

Parvaiz Bhat, the militantturned-PDP leader, escaped the attack unhurt.

Bhat said militants dressed in 'pheran' -- traditional Kashmiri cloak worn during winter -- and armed with AK rifles came to his residence this morning.

As soon as the militants pulled out their weapons, the PSO opened fire, he said. The constable was injured in the firing by the militants.

The injured cop was taken to the nearby Bone and Joint Hospital for treatment, a police official said. He said the policeman succumbed to injuries.

PSO's Killing Aimed To Disrupt Polls: DGP

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir police chief Dilbagh Singh Monday said that the killing of a Personal Security Officer (PSO) of a PDP leader at Natipora, Srinagar, is an attempt to disrupt the ongoing election process and the prevailing peaceful environment across Kashmir.

attack on his life since he joined mainstream politics. He was earli-

er a militant of Hizbul Mujahideen. The government has downgraded my security. I don't know what would have been the fate of

my family if the alert PSO had not opened fire," Bhat told reporters at his residence.

Bhat claimed that it was third now had only two PSOs compared to five earlier.

After Prince, Gulshan & Kismat

Sink In Troubled Dal Waters

In a statement issued here, a police spokesperson in a handout issued here this afternoon said that a case has been registered in this regard under relevant sections of law. "Investigation is in progress and officers continue to work to establish the full circumstances of this

He claimed that his security de- crime. Area has been cordoned tail was reduced last year and he and search in the » More On P8

J&K Water Bodies To Get 'Unique Identification Number'

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Number to each water body; to government formed a Committee remove encroachments in and for monitoring overall progress around the water bodies; to prein the identification, protection vent dumping of waste in the and restoration of water bodies water bodies; to maintain water in Jammu and Kashmir.

Headed by Administrative Secretary, Forest Ecology and ies by taking other appropriate Environment department, the steps involving the Panchayats eight-member committee has and the Community, utilizing been asked to identify and pro- the financial resources availtect all water bodies in J&K; to able from different sources and assign Unique Identification to evolve further >>> More On P8

53% For Sarpanch JAMMU: The sixth phase of told reporters here. Bypolls were held for 334

tions in Jammu and Kashmir vacant panch seats in the sixth phase and out of a total of 58,094 electors, including 30,318 men and 27,776 women, 34.012 voted, he said,

the panch by-elections.



division for the sixth phase of On the sarpanch bypolls, he said that 52.90 per cent voting was

be vaccinated in accordance with the prioritisation, and there will be no provision for on the-spot registrations.

The states have been asked, as far as possible, to allocate the vaccine from one More On P8



SRINAGAR: The death toll due to coronavirus crossed 1800-mark in Jammu and Kashmir on Monday as three more people lost the battle with the deadly infection, while 246 fresh cases of Covid-19 were detected in the Union Territory in the last 24 hours.

Among the three victims claimed by the virus in J&K, two were residents of Jammu region and one from Kashmir More On P8



quality as per the recognized standards; to restore water bod-

vacant panch and sarpanch by- registered in 77 vacant constitupolls, respectively, held the oth- encies. In this phase, there were er day (Sunday)," State Election 99,454 electors, including 51,748 Commissioner (SEC) K K Sharma men and 47,706 >> More On P8

while Ganderbal district had the highest turnout at 66.26 per cent in the Kashmir division. "Around 58.55 per cent and 52.90 per cent voter turnout was recorded in the sixth phase of

PANCHAYAT BY-POLLS- PHASE VI

panch and sarpanch by-elec-

recorded 58.55 per cent and

52.90 per cent voter turnout

respectively, poll offi-cials said on Friday.

Reasi district in the

Jammu division had the

highest poll percentage

in the Union Territory at

58% Votes Polled For Panch Seats,

claimed to have arrested seven gamblers in a raid in the Nehru Park area of this capital city.

Acting on an input, a police party carried out a raid at Zabarwan Park along the Boulevard road and apprehended seven gamblers from the spot, a police spokesperson said Monday. He said playing cards and a cash of Rs 26,060/- were recovered from their possession.

"They have been arrested and shifted to PS RM Bagh where they remain in custody," the police spokesperson said. >> More On P8

Employee Attempts Suicide, Hospitalised

SRINAGAR: A Sanitary Inspector on Monday morning allegedly attempted suicide by consuming some poisonous substance in Tangdhar area of north-Kashmir's Kupwara district, official sources said.

Shabir Ahmad Lone (38) a resident of Handwara allegedly took some poisonous substance this morning at his residential quarters in Tangdhar area of the border district, official sources said. Lone, they said, was airlifted to sub-district Hospital Kupwara for treatment. More On P8

ACB Files Case Over Rice Embezzlement

SRINAGAR: The Anti Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Monday filed a case of embezzlement of food grain in Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA) Department.

In a statement issued here, an ACB spokesperson said that a verification conducted by the ACB revealed that Director Food. Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA) Department Kashmir has allotted additional 500 AAY Ration Tickets (RTs) to district Baramulla with effect from October 2017 under revised NFSA target.

The additional allotment of rice 5075 quintals, he said, continuously flowed from the Directorate of Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Kashmir to More On P8

All Roshni Scamsters To Be Booked: Singh

REASI: Union Minister litendra Singh on Monday said those who allegedly illegally occupied lands in Jammu and Kashmir under the so called Roshni scam will be brought to book.

Campaigning for BJP candidates contesting the District Development Council (DDC) elections, Singh cautioned farmers against alleged mischievous propaganda being spread by the opposition parties that the government will take away their agricultural and other land as a consequence of the action taken on the Roshni scam.

"In the coming days to come, all these land grabbers (Roshni scam) will be brought to book and the investigation has already got initiated in several cases," he said.

Singh said the Roshni scamsters and land grabbers are spreading lies about the newly framed land laws >> More On P8



KO WEB DESK

SRINAGAR: Breakdown of Kashmir's iconic houseboat community continues unabated as the 'sinking' tragedy once again struck the lockdown-hit tourism industry last Saturday – the day the valley witnessed a moderate snowfall.

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Under the weight of the season's fresh snowfall, three houseboats including Gulshan Palace, Kismat and New Dog Star sank in the middle of the Dal Lake, taking the overall toll of destroyed houseboats at 9 this year.

The fresh fallen houseboats belonged to Mohammed Sultan

Badyari and Bashir Ahmed Kolu. Earlier, on December 3, a residential houseboat named HB Prince met the same tragedy in river Ihelum.

"These three houseboats sank because of the snowfall," Yakoob Dunno, spokesperson of Kashmir Houseboat Owners Association (KHBOA) told Kashmir Observer. "Their pathetic conditions des-

perately needed repairs, but the ban on the house reconstruction and renovation has ended their fairvtale forever now."

Dunno said pleas of Kashmir's houseboat community are repeatedly falling on deaf ears.

"The house is a wooden fringe unit which needs repairing, reconstruction and caulking from time to time," Dunno said, "But it seems nobody is bothered about our concerns."

With no business since last August, he said, the houseboat owners can't effort >> More On P8

Srinagar To Get Metro Rail Soon: Govt

Once Approved. Project Should Be Completed Within 2 Years: LG



OBSERVER NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor, Manoi Sinha on Monday stressed upon speedy implementation of Jammu and Srinagar Metro rail projects and directed that the project once approved should be completed within two years from the date of commencement.

Chairing a meeting at Civil Secretariat here to steer Light Metro Rail Projects for Jammu and Srinagar, the LG observed that the elevated

Metro Rail System will not only facilitate the people but also have a positive impact on the economy and quality of life, an official spokesperson said. The LG said that the Metro Project for the two cities will be costeffective and a leap towards sustainable public transport.

Earlier, the representatives of MAHA-Metro gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding the works related to the project, besides highlighting the key issues on Jammu and Srinagar >> More On P8

'I Feel Like Crying': C-Section Making Life Painful For Kashmiri Mothers

ASIF KHAN, ARBEENA SHAH

nside Srinagar's Lal Ded hospital, Nazima is struggling with her baby bump.

Dressed in a sloppy Frock Shalwar, she's being assisted by her mother-reciting 'Bismillah' recurrently in a hope to give some spiritual strength and solace to her daughter.

While being wheeled to the observation room, Nazima is all set to go under surgical knife for delivering her first baby. As her husband and mother trial behind, she looks a bit edgy but, for now she



just wants to get rid of the pain she is in. 'Myoun Khoedah dee taar (My Allah will take care of you),"Nazima's mother comforts her daughter before taken to the theatre for Cesarean Section. Lower segment Caesarean Section (LCSC) or simply C-Section is the surgical delivery of a baby through incisions in the abdomen and the uterus. Kashmir is witnessing a hysteric rise

Usually, if there is a high risk pregnancy such as the expecting lady being hypertensive, diabetic, over-aged, or baby beech is detected, then we prefer delivery through C-Sections since the vaginal delivery can be risky"



in C-Section rates as more women are backing the wrong horse by opting for surgery to deliver the baby.

An RTI (Right to Information) filed by the rights activist M M Shuja recently disclosed that out of the total 20,329 deliveries carried out in five monthsfrom April 01 to August 31, 2020-in Kashmir, at least 8,677 were conducted through C-Section.

These numbers put the overall percentage of C-Section in Kashmir at over 42.68, against the WHO-recommended 10-15 percent.

C-Section surgeries may be seen as a fast and easy way to deliver, usu-

ally to elude the labour pain, but it ties the women to a compromised health afterwards.

Ayesha Wasim, 33, who had delivered her lone child surgically four years ago, became an ugly

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