

COVID-19 THREAT

Div Com Reviews Preparedness, Asks People Not To Panic

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Baseer Ahmad Khan today chaired a high level meeting to review preparedness to tackle Coronavirus (COVID-19) threat put in place by line departments across the valley.

The meeting was informed that Isolation wards have been earmarked in SKIMS, Chest Disease hospital and in each district hospitals besides setting up Separate Isolation Hospital at Maternity home, Sanat Nagar, Srinagar, where strict isolation facility has been put in place.

Microbiology department in SKIMS has already started Coronavirus testing facilities for suspected cases.

Five screening desks were established at Airport and Screening camps erected at Lower Munda, Qazigund and Zig morh at Kulgam besides at various Railway stations for round the clock testing and filling of self-declaration forms.

The meeting was informed that 1206 vehicles carrying 13,140 passengers have been screened at zig morh including two foreigners.

Deputy Commissioner, Srinagar, Dr Shahid Iqbal Choudhary said that quarantine facilities have been set up at several places in the district. These facilities include 615 rooms made available in 11 buildings at different areas.



He said the setting up of these quarantine facilities is in tandem with Standard Operating Procedure advised by the World Health Organization for prevention of spread of Coronavirus. Dr Shahid said that the two 24x7 control rooms have been set up by district administration and health department have been activated.

For Quarantine purpose 614 beds earmarked in nine districts which include 76 in Budgam, 105 in Baramullah, 45 in Bani-

dipora, 70 in Ganderbal, 74 in Kupwara, 73 in Pulwama, 104 in Anantnag, 41 in Kulgam and 26 beds in Shopian district. Daily surveillance of Respiratory Tract Infection cases including OPD in ten districts is going on besides, Rapid Response Teams (RRT) are

in place in every district, samples are being collected, data analyzed and Cluster cases are investigated. It was further informed that 24x7 control rooms are functioning in each district and advisory is being circulated in media with Helpline numbers. Besides, two lac pamphlets of Preventive Measures have already been distributed at district levels while daily surveillance teams have been designated at Schools, Highways, Offices, Rail-

way Stations and other public places. The teams report to the concerned district administrations on daily basis.

The Divisional Commissioner directed the concerned to launch intense fumigation at schools, offices, police stations,

rected to conduct strict screening at Airport, railway stations, Highways and Tourist Places so that nobody can skip the test. Screening should be made expedient with filling of Self declaration form. The Div Com directed the concerned to install more CCTVs cameras at important public places.

He asked the Private Hospitals to cooperate with concerned district administrations for dissemination of real time information of suspected case. The Divisional Commissioner stressed concerned to adopt co-ordinated and collective efforts on mission mode to ward off the threat posed by Coronavirus (COVID-19).

Deputy Commissioner Srinagar Dr Shahid Iqbal Choudhary, Additional Commissioner Kashmir Bilal Ahmad Bhat, Director Health Services, Kashmir, Dr Sameer Mattoo, Director SKIMS, Dr AG Ahanger, Principal GMC, Srinagar, Dr Samia Rashid, Director ULB, GMSRTC, Director Airport and other concerned officials were present in the meeting where as other Deputy Commissioners participated the meeting through video conferencing.

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Dropping 'Sher-e-Kashmir' title an attack on the history of J&K: Tarigami

SRINAGAR: Taking a serious note of unabated moves to wipe out the legacy of 'Quit Kashmir Movement' and its leadership CPI(M) leader Mohammad Yousuf Tarigami on Tuesday said it is a brazen attack on the history of Jammu and Kashmir and to undermine the contribution of the leadership headed by Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah who preferred secular India over Pakistan by rejecting the two nation theory.

"Sher-e-Kashmir is not just a title but a glorious chapter of history in Jammu and Kashmir. We might have difference with Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah but that doesn't mean we should undermine his and his colleagues historic role which they played right from their advent on the political scene. The contribution of the Quit Kashmir Movement led by him for the upliftment of the people and revolutionary changes in agrarian sector and education laid the foundation of 'Naya Kashmir' which unfortunately is under attack since BJP came to power at the centre, especially after August 5 last year," Tarigami

said in a statement. "The BJP is known to have a grudge against that movement and want to rewrite the history but it is not easy to erase the historic contribution of our people and the leadership". "Dropping the public



holiday on 13th July, Martyrs Day and on the birth anniversary of Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah followed by removing the title of Sher-e-Kashmir from state award and police medal and now renaming Sher-e-Kashmir International Convention Centre as Kashmir International Convention Centre exposes the dubious stand of the BJP time and again. BJP can welcome with open arms anybody when it feels its need but will not hesitate in punishing him/her, when it opposes their disastrous policies". The slapping of PSA against three former

Chief Ministers who all worked with BJP for some time is an eye opener for anyone who is lured by the saffron party.

"What happened on August 5 last year is a historic blunder and an unprecedented assault on the basic structure

of our republican constitution. Right thinking people, groups and parties including CPI (M) have challenged the revocation of special status under Article 370 and Article 35A and downgrading of Jammu and Kashmir into two Union Territories in the Apex Court. It remains a duty for all secular democratic forces to raise their voice at every level against this unconstitutional Act". "We must unite demand restoration of whatever has been snatched from our people including the constitution of Jammu & Kashmir. (GNS)

Court designated Special Court for POCSO cases

SRINAGAR: Principal District & Sessions Judge, Srinagar, Abdul Rashid Malik who has been designated as Special Court for District Srinagar for trial of the Protection of the Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSO) cases, has awarded interim compensation of Rs. 3.00 lac each as interim compensation in three cases, here today, in favor of the victims of rape and sexual assault in FIR No. 115/2019 P/S Nigeen Srinagar, FIR No. 49/2019 P/S Soura, Srinagar, and FIR No. 06/2019 P/S Shergari, Srinagar, with direction to the Member Secretary, J&K State Legal Services Authority to release the interim compensation forthwith in favor of the victims.

The 11 cases filed under the POCSO Act are being fast tracked.

Pertinently, the Vulnerable Witness Deposition Complex, Srinagar which was inaugurated by the Chief Justice of J&K High Court on March 16, 2019, has become fully functional.

Chief Justice has formulated a protocol for recording evidence of vulnerable witness in Jammu and Kashmir in terms of Notification No. 42 dated 29th of May 2019.

As per the Protocol, the Vulnerable witness means any child witness who has



not completed 18 years of age or any victim of sexual violence or any material witness in dangerous crime and such other witness, as may be deemed Vulnerable by the Trial Courts.

The proceedings in POCSO cases are held in Camera. The Victim of Sexual assault is being provided assistance of a Support Person who is usually a lady lawyer. The victim does not come in interface with the accused or the Coun-

sel for the accused. During the trial of the cases under POCSO Act, all precautions are being taken to ensure a child friendly atmosphere in the Court. The questions are asked to the victim in a form which are appropriate to the developmental level of vulnerable witness and questions are allowed in simple language.

There is protection of privacy and safety as the record regarding the vulnerable witness is kept confidential and under-seal. The depositions of the vulnerable witnesses are recorded by a video link.

There are protective measures in the Court Room like avoiding of direct or indirect contact between vulnerable witness and accused or opposite party at any point of justice process. Trial is being conducted on fast-track basis to ensure that the trials in the cases of rape and sexual abuse are concluded within the stipulated time as envisaged under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012.

DIAL-EMMA

- TRAFFIC POLICE : 9419993745, 01998-266686
- PCR: 0194-2452092, 2455883
- PDD: 0194-2450213
- FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES : 2479488, 2452222, 2452155
- CAPD: 18001807011
- SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081

AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311

RAILWAYS

- SRINAGAR: 0194-2103259
- ANANTNAG: 01932-228243
- BARAMULLA: 0194-102029
- BUBHERA: 01932-228243
- PAMPORE: 01933-294132
- PATTAN: 01954-293507
- QAZIGUND: 01951-296153

HIGHWAY STATUS

- Sgr-Jammu highway - (Open)
- Mughal Road - (Closed)
- Srinagar-Leh - (Closed)

This Day in History

- 502 - Ismail I crowned Shah of Persia (rules till 1524), founder of the Safavid dynasty
- 1669 - Volcano Etna in Italy erupts killing 15,000
- 1795 - Battle at Kurda India: Mahratten beat Mogols.
- 1845 - The Flagstaff War: In New Zealand, Chiefs Hone Heke and Kawiti lead 700 Moris to chop down the British flagpole and drive settlers out of the British colonial settlement of Kororareka because of breaches of the 1840 Treaty of Waitangi.
- 1848 - Louis-Hippolyte Lafontaine and Robert Baldwin become the first Prime Ministers of the Province of Canada to be democratically elected under a system of responsible government.
- 1864 - The Great Sheffield Flood: the largest man-made disaster ever to befall England kills over 250 people in Sheffield.
- 1897 - A meteorite enters the earth's atmosphere and explodes over New Martinsville, West Virginia. The debris causes damage but no human injuries are reported.
- 1900 - British Prime Minister Lord Salisbury rejects peace overtures from the Boer leader Paul Kruger (on 5 March) as demanding too-favourable terms
- 1915 - The British declare a blockade of all German ports
- 1917 - British forces occupy Baghdad, the capital of Mesopotamia, after Turkish forces evacuated
- 1918 - Moscow becomes capital of revolutionary Russia
- 1920 - Syria proclaims Emir Faisal king after the country has fought off French domination
- 1931 - Ready for Labour and Defence of the USSR, abbreviated as GTO, is introduced in the Soviet Union.
- 1938 - Artur Seyss-Inquart replaces Kurt von Schuschnigg as Chancellor of Austria; German troops also entered the country
- 1941 - FDR signs Lend-Lease Bill (lend money to Britain)
- 1942 - Japanese troop land on North Sumatra
- 1945 - 1,000 allied bombers harass Essen, 4,662 ton bombs
- 1953 - 1st woman army doctor commissioned (FM Adams)
- 1958 - American B-47 accidentally drops nuclear bomb 15,000 ft on a family home in Mars Bluff, South Carolina; creates crater 75 ft across, bomb without its nuclear capsule
- 1960 - Pioneer 5 launched into solar orbit between Earth & Venus
- 1965 - Indonesia President Sukarno accepts qualifications of Suharto
- 1966 - Military coup led by Indonesian Gen Suharto breaks out
- 1970 - Iraq Ba' th Party recognizes Kurd nation
- 1972 - OPEC threatens "appropriate sanctions" against companies that "fail to comply with... any action taken by a Member Country in accordance with [OPEC] decisions."
- 1974 - Mount Etna in Sicily erupted
- 1982 - US boycotts Libyan crude oil
- 1985 - Mikhail Gorbachev replaces Konstantin Chernenko as Soviet leader
- 1986 - 1 million days since the foundation of Rome on April 21st, 753 BC
- 1986 - 187.27 million shares traded in NY Stock Exchange
- 1986 - Japanese probe Sakigake flies by Halley's Comet at 6.8 million km
- 1990 - Lithuania declares its independence
- 1996 - The EU Database Directive is passed.
- 1999 - Infosys becomes the first Indian company listed on the NASDAQ stock exchange.
- 2003 - The International Criminal Court holds its inaugural session in The Hague.
- 2004 - Terrorists explode simultaneous bombs on Madrid's rail network ripping through a commuter train and rocking three stations, killing 190
- 2006 - Michelle Bachelet is inaugurated as the first female president of Chile.
- 2010 - Sebastián Piñera become Chilean president.



PRAYERS

- FAJR 5:28
- ZUHR 12:43
- ASR 4:53
- MAGRIB 6:37
- ISHA 7:57

Office of the Principal Govt. Degree College Bijbehara-Kashmir-192124

Website: www.gdcbijbehara.net Email: principalbijbehara@gmail.com

Sealed tenders affixed with Revenue stamp of Rs. 2/- are invited from the Registered vendors / Interested persons / Experienced Aspirants for running of College Canteen during the session 2020-21, which should reach this office within 07 days from the date of publication of this notice. The tender should be accompanied with a CDR of Rs. : 3000/- pledged to the Principal GDC, Bijbehara. The successful tendered shall have to produce a certificate of good moral character from atleast two reputed citizens of his locality. The tendered shall quote his rates on the prescribed format available in this office or on College website www.gdcbijbehara.net. No tender shall be accepted on any format other than the one mentioned above. The other terms and conditions, as prescribed in the format, shall hold in letter and spirit.

Sd/-
Principal
Govt. Degree College
Bijbehara

DIPK-6393/19

Government of Jammu and Kashmir

MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE PAHALGAM
TENDER NOTICE

Sealed tenders affixed with Rs.06/- revenue stamps are invited from the registered dealers, suppliers, firms/ interested parties for the supply of following Rain Coats/ Water Proof Jackets for the year 2019-20/ (Yatra) which should reach to this office by or **before 16/03/2020 up to 2 PM:-**

S.No	Name of item.	Rate to be quoted
01	Rain Coats (complete set)	Per set.
02	Water Proof Jackets (with logo from back side).	Per No.
03	Water proof tents 12x18	Per tent
04	Thermo cool 16 MM	Per Sft
05	Blankets (mink) Superior Quality 220 x 240	Per No.
06	Dunlop Mattresses 4 inch thick single size	Per No.

- The intending tenderer should quote their rates per item according to quality/ specification.
- The intending dealer should quote their rates F.O.R to Municipal Committee Pahalgam.
- Each tender should be accompanied with a CDR of Rs.5,000/- pledged to Executive Officer Municipal Committee Pahalgam without which no tenders shall be entertained.
- Only those agencies/firms shall quote rates that possess GSTIN and have Tax Clearance Certificate from the concerned department.
- Payment in respect of successful quotationer shall be made after receipt of items as per specification and conditions and only after same is received from Government/ Director Urban Local Bodies Kashmir
- The undersigned reserves the right to accept or reject any offer without assigning any reason thereof.
- Other details can be had from the office of undersigned on all working days during working hours.

Sd/-
Executive Officer,
Municipal Committee, Pahalgam.
Dated:-09/03/2020

No: MC-PGM/19/1825-29
DIPK-NB-2172/19

From KO Archives

Rousing welcome for Pak fans in India

Sunil Kataria

MOHALI: For several years, Afsha Sajjad wanted to visit India, the country she had heard of through anecdotes and seen through its popular film industry.

Sajjad, a housewife from Lahore, finally got her wish on Monday when she crossed the border for Pakistan's first cricket series on Indian soil since 1999.

"It was my cherished dream; to come and see India and finally it has been fulfilled," she told Reuters.

"We were a bit nervous as we crossed the border but now I'm ecstatic," she said, adjusting the garland of marigolds she was given along, with a rousing Indian welcome of drums and trumpets.

It has never been easy for ordinary Indians and Pakistanis to travel across the border as both nationals face a series of bureaucratic restrictions if they want to visit the other country.

Normally visas are issued only to families separated by the 1947 partition of the subcontinent, and for religious, business and academic events.

Sajjad is among thousands of Pakistani fans who have descended on Chandigarh, in India's northern Punjab state bordering Pakistan, to watch the first test starting in nearby Mohali on Tuesday.

The Pakistan cricket team, who arrived last week for a seven-week tour of India, will play three tests and six one-dayers.

The Indian government has issued 10,000 visas for Pakistani fans and the hosts are eager to match the hospitality given to them during last year's series in Pakistan.

Huge banners welcoming Pakistani fans lined the highway from the border city of Amritsar with hundreds of locals greeting them at bus stops along the route.

Shakil Ashraf Butt, a businessman for Lahore, said the reception made him feel he had come from one house in his locality to another.

"I hope that soon a time will come when we will be able to visit each other without any passports or visas; that's the way it ought to be," he said.

MAKING FRIENDS
"We're here to make-friends and brothers. We want to invite them back home to Lahore."

India and Pakistan, divided along religious lines after the end of British rule in 1947 have fought three wars with each other, two of them over the disputed region of Kashmir.

Mirroring the tense political relations, cricketing ties between the countries have also seen tips and downs.