



Maximum : 9°C
Minimum : 6°C
Humidity : 89%

SUNSET
Today 06:48 PM
SUNRISE
Tomorrow 06:25 AM

OBSERVER

23rd year OF PUBLICATION

KASHMIR

02 Shaban-UL-Muazzam | 1441 Hijri | Vol:23 | Issue:63 | Pages:08 | Price: ₹3

www.kashmirobserver.net • twitter.com / kashmirobserver • facebook.com/kashmirobserver • Postal Regn: L/159/KO/SK/2014-2016

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HOW CORONAVIRUS CHANGED OUR WORLD

Looking back, it's hard to remember the exact moment we left the old world behind, and entered this new one. How did Ernest Hemingway describe going bankrupt – "gradually, and then suddenly"? Like that. Was it last month, when the trip to Italy I'd booked with my partner was cancelled?.....



HATAN KATHAN KUNI KATH:
FINDING TRANQUILITY AMIDST TURMOIL
Who doesn't look back on the carefree and intoxicating days of yore? Reminiscing, reflecting on past experience with fondness especially the early days of one's life is an emotion not unfamiliar to us which sometimes

06 / NEWS.....
CHINA LIFTS TRAVEL CURBS TO HUBEI PROVINCE, INCLUDING WUHAN
The coronavirus death toll in Spain surged to 4,089 after 655 people died within 24 hours, the health ministry said on Thursday. It was a 19 percent increase on figures released Wednesday.....

News Digest

DAK Starts App Based Covid-19 Helpline

Srinagar: The Doctors Association Kashmir (DAK) on Thursday launched Android based mobile application to provide online medical consultations to the people over Covid-19 pandemic and minor ailments. Named as "DAK-HELPDESK" the app will provide medical consultations either telephonically or through Whatsapp between 9AM ● P-02

Militants Attack CRPF Post In Pulwama

Srinagar: Unknown militants on Thursday opened fire upon CRPF troopers in south Kashmir's Pulwama district. Militants appeared in Belav village of the district and fired dozens of rounds towards the picket of CRPF 183 Battalion, news agency KNT reported today. The troopers, report said returned the fire as the militants managed to flee from the spot. The brief shootout, sources told KNT triggered panic in the village. Soon after the incident, government forces cordoned off the area and launched a cordon and search operation, the report said.

2 Cops Killed In Reasi Accident

Srinagar: Two policemen, including an officer were killed on Thursday in a road accident in Reasi district of Jammu and Kashmir. Sub Inspector, Abdul Aziz and his deputy Mushtaq Ahmed were killed this morning when the car (JK02CG-0752) they were travelling in, met with an accident near Simbal area of Reasi district, news agency KNO reported. Meanwhile, Police have registered a case and started further investigation into the matter.

Civilian Injured in Cross-LoC Shelling

Srinagar: A civilian on Thursday was injured after India and Pakistan troops exchanged heavy gunfire along the Line of Control (LoC) in Uri sector. Pakistan troops used small arms and fired shells to target army posts in Hajipoor area of Uri sector of Baramulla district this noon, an army officer told news agency GNS. A civilian identified as Ishfaq Ahmad Deedad son of Ali Mohd Deedad of Churanda sustained injuries after a shell hit his residential house, he said. The officer said that the Indian troops guarding the LoC retaliated to the unprovoked firing and ceasefire violation by the Pakistani troops. The exchange of fire, he said continued for several hours.

Non-Local Found Dead In City Outskirts

Srinagar: A non-local on Thursday was found dead under mysterious circumstances in Nowgam area of the city outskirts. Hailing from Punjab, the man identified as Madan Lal was found dead inside a truck (RJ19GA-2389), near railway crossing in Nowgam this morning, news agency CNS reported. The deceased, according to police officials was working as a conductor. Meanwhile, police have filed a case and started further investigations in this regard.

17 Arrested For Violating Prohibitory Orders

Srinagar: Police on Thursday arrested 17 people for defying prohibitory orders imposed to contain the spread of coronavirus pandemic in the Valley.

In south Kashmir's Awantipora, 14 people were arrested for flouting orders issued under section 144 CrPC banning assembly of four or more people, a police spokesperson said. A case FIR No 38/2020 under relevant section have been registered against them. Three people were arrested ● P-02

HC Orders Closure Of All Courts During Lockdown

Srinagar: The Chief Justice of Jammu and Kashmir High Court on Wednesday ordered closure of all the Court complexes of J&K and Ladakh including the High Court complexes at Srinagar and Jammu, during the period of the lockdown.

This is has been ordered in view of the declaration of 21-day lockdown by the Government of India and the closure ● P-02

'Coronavirus Killing More Men Than Women'

Srinagar: Following the death of an elderly male in Kashmir valley due to the novel coronavirus, Doctors Association Kashmir (DAK) on Thursday said the novel virus is killing more men than women.

"More men are dying than women due to the virus," claimed DAK President DrNisa-ul-Hassan. "This is what evidence shows in countries with heavy death ● P-02

65-Year-Old COVID-19 Patient Dies, First Death In Kashmir

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A 65-year-old resident of Hyderpora Srinagar infected with the coronavirus died at Chest Disease (CD) hospital Drugian, in the early hours of Thursday, thus becoming Kashmir's first recorded death due to the disease, official sources said.

The man had a medical history of illness with diabetes, hypertension and obesity.

"Despite our best efforts, the COVID-19 positive patient at Chest Disease Hospital passed away due to cardiac arrest. The patient had medical history of illness with diabetes, hypertension, obesity," they said.

Resident of Shah Anwar Colony, Hyderpora the man originally hailed from Sopore. He had returned from New Delhi recently after attending a congregation of 'Tablighi Jamaat' there. ● P-02



THE FUNERAL OF 65-YEAR OLD BUSINESSMAN WHO SUCCEMPTED TO COVID-19 was held in his native Sopore on Thursday. Photo Abu Bakr.

Family Contests Hospital Claim

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Family members of Kashmir's first coronavirus victim took to social media to contest the doctors' version, claiming that they had indeed disclosed the patient's travel history but doctors refused screening for the COVID-19.

"Doctors refused to screen him for coronavirus in view of no international travel (as was the guidelines that time)", according to a post by ZafarAnim, who was accompanying the patient, a resident of Hyderpora Srinagar, during the visits to the hospital. Amin wrote that doctors on March 21 advised ● P-02

Siblings Test Positive To Covid-19, Toll Reaches 11

Observer News Service

Srinagar- Two siblings, both minors, were tested positive for coronavirus in Kashmir on Thursday, taking the number of cases to 10, officials said.

"Two more positive cases in Srinagar. Siblings (seven-years-old and eight-months-old)... Total number of active positive cases is now at 11," government spokesperson RohitKansal tweeted.

The eight-month-old might be the youngest to be infected with



COVID-19 in the country.

He said they are the grandchildren of a person who had tested positive for COVID-19 on Tuesday in Srinagar and had a travel history to Saudi Arabia.

The minors have been put under isolation at the JLN hospital Rainawari, one among the three exclusive hospitals for Covid-19 management by the J&K administration. Besides the siblings, thirty suspects have been admitted to the JLN hospital, most of them either relatives or neighbours ● P-02

Religious Places In Srinagar Shut Down

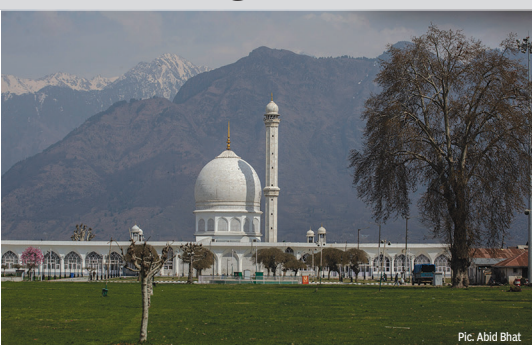
Observer News Service

Srinagar: The district administration closed down all religious places in this capital city, as the coronavirus cases across the Valley rose to 13 on Thursday.

The decision about the closure of religious places has been taken by District Magistrate Srinagar in an effort to contain spread of the infection, as the number of infected reached five, an official spokesperson said.

"Major shrines and gurdwaras supported the decision of the administration and made the initiative in this regard," an official spokesperson said.

Among the religious places closed today, includes Hazratbal shrine, Naqshband shrine, Dastgeer Sahib shrine and ChattipadshahiGurdwara.



Pic: Abid Bhat

"Concerned officers are on the ground reaching out across the district to ensure closure of all places of worship including all mosques and gurdwaras as well as temples and churches," the official spokesperson said.

He said that the District Magistrate has urged management committees of all places of worship and all residents of the district to cooperate and support the

administration in this decision taken for the greater good of the people in view of the prevailing health situation.

"He has urged one and all to ensure strict implementation of the order until further notice. He said it a difficult decision but an unavoidable measure keeping in view the threat that this infection poses," the official spokesperson added.

BMO Told by Senior to Ferry a COVID-19 Patient in his Vehicle

Ejaz-ul-Haq/AuqibJaveed

Bandipora: Negligence of senior healthcare officials in Baramulla and Bandipora in handling a COVID-19 positive patient may have led to several more people contracting infection in the two districts. The officials let a senior doctor and his driver get close to the patient in violation of the official protocol, compromising their health and those who met them later, including their families.

On Tuesday, the Chief Medical Officer (CMO) BandiporaDrTajamul ordered his deputy to ferry a COVID-19 patient from Government Medical College Baramulla to DakBun-

glowBandipora. Complying with the orders, Block Medical Officer DrAsif went to the hospital and transported the patient in his official vehicle, in violation of Standard Operating Procedure.

"I was returning from home when the CMO asked me to pick up a patient from Baramulla hospital," Asif told Kashmir Observer. "I followed the orders of my senior".

The 22-year-old Bandipora resident had only recently returned to Kashmir from Andhra Pradesh where he is pursuing his studies. He was admitted at the GMC Baramulla on Monday and put under quarantine after he showed symptoms ● P-02

Several Mosques In Pulwama Declared Quarantines Centres

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Amid a spike in coronavirus cases in the Valley, authorities in south Kashmir's Pulwama have decided to turn many mosques used by 'Tableeghi Jamaat' as administrative quarantine centres.

The District Magistrate Pulwama, Dr Raghav Langer has issued an order (DCP/PA-5968-78) today in which he has expressed apprehension over the spread of coronavirus in the area due to the movement of people associated with 'Tableeghi Jamaat'

"Whereas, mostly the 'tableeghi Jamaat' on returning are living in certain mosques of district Pulwama making these

mosques vulnerable to spread of infection to other people visiting there. Whereas to curb spread of COVID-19, it is now felt to declare such mosques as quarantine areas, where 'tableeghi jamaat' are residing or taking shelter," reads the order.

The order says that that under section 34 of Disaster Management Act, 2005, such masjids/ mosques of district Pulwama be designated as administrative quarantine centres where concerned magistrates find the tableeghi Jamaat persons have recently returned from outside and are residing in mosques.

The order directs all Magistrates of the district to adhere to the directions wherever ● P-02



CANCER SOCIETY OF KASHMIR

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Information for General Public

In the interest of patient care it is hereby informed that **Cancer Society of Kashmir** is conducting Mammography Screening at lowest possible rates of **Rs, 800/-** Eight Hundred only.

All the interested persons can avail the opportunity. For prior appointments please contact following numbers:-
0194-2441899-2430899.

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