

Maximum : 22°C
Minimum : 11°C
Humidity : 54%

SUNSET
Today 07:11 PM
SUNRISE
Tomorrow 05:47 AM

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HELP POOR BUT KEEP YOUR CAMERA AT HOME

Right to privacy is protected as intrinsic part of Right to Life and personal liberty under Article 21 and as a part of freedom guaranteed by part third of the Constitution of India. This right holds its importance equally even in these difficult times when Covid -19 has made many people needy to such an extent that they might be compromising their privacy. Tranquility lies in serving people who are in need and this Covid-19 has made many people time bound needy.....

.....OPINION
P4

News Digest

01 ST RAMAZAN		
IFTAR	SEHRI	
TODAY	TOMMORROW	
FIQAH HANAFIYA	07:14	04:17
FIQAH JAFARIYA	07:20	04:15

19 Booked For Lockdown Violation

Srinagar: Acting tough against the violators of Government prohibitory orders, Police in a series of actions have arrested 19 persons in Sub Division Sadder, Srinagar. Thirteen persons were arrested in the jurisdiction of PS Sadder for defying Govt orders. Accordingly, cases under relevant sections of law have been registered at PS Sadder and further investigations into the cases have been initiated. In the jurisdiction of **P-02**

Handwara Complaint Against Arnab

Srinagar: Jammu Kashmir Zamindar Forum Saturday registered a complaint against TV Anchor Arnab Goswami at Police Station Handwara for relating Palghar mob lynching incident to Muslim community. The forum has requested police to register an FIR against 'communal' anchor Goswami for trying to create a wedge between Muslims and Hindus in India. "Please lodge a case against Arnab Goswami, co-founder **P-02**

'Rancho Khan' Detained For FB Post

Srinagar: Ganderbal police has arrested a man for posting an 'abusive comment' on the official Facebook page of the District Police. "A case FIR number 74/2020 under relevant sections of law stands registered at Police Station Ganderbal and investigations were initiated," a police spokesman said. The spokesman said that "during the investigation of the case, the Facebook account named as Rancho Khan was tracked **P-02**

LG Says Ramzan-ul- Mubarak To People

Jammu: Lt. Governor Girish Chandra Murmu has greeted the people on the commencement of the holy month of Ramzan and hoped that this auspicious period would be a harbinger of peace, amity, brotherhood, progress, and prosperity in J&K. In a message, the Lt. Governor said that the holy month of Ramzan is a period dedicated to fasting, service, and prayers and it underscores the values of austerity, patience, tolerance, **P-02**

Amid Pandemic, This Survivor is Becoming Kashmir's Mental Help

Jyotsna Bharti

Suffering from bipolar disorder, Faisal Shafi was going through a terrible time in lockdown. The man in his mid-forties availed therapies until he could. But once his support system collapsed and threatened to further derail his already unsound mindset, his daughter sought help from a friend, who's actively arranging mental consultations in the valley.

Founder of 'Ittifaq- United We Stand', Nida Rehman con-

nected her friend's father to mental health specialists and averted the possible mental escalation case in Srinagar.

"We're doing our bit by serving at the psychological front in these testing times," Nida told Kashmir Observer. "A sound mind plays a vital role in maintaining a healthy body."

The aim, she said, is to help in whatever way "we can and we will keep doing that to the best of our capabilities".

Nida's NGO has been working for a cause, mental health awareness, which, she believes, has not been given as much



importance as it deserves.

"We keep getting calls

from people currently grappling with mental stress,"

Nida continued. "After giving them a patient hearing, we

connect them with mental health experts."

Nida's mental awareness campaign started in the year 2014, when flood of biblical proportion unleashed a great mental distress in the valley.

Then, as a student of University of Kashmir, she started a few campaigns and programs with the help of her friends for children's education.

"Kashmir is not a normal place like any other city or state," Nida said, when asked about the motivation behind the NGO.

"People feel suffocated and

want to run away. Maybe because of orthodox society and continuous hindrance in education, people here still lack the understanding of mental health issues which made a lot of children comfortable having a conversation with me, than their parents."

In 2017, when Nida was doing well with the NGO programs, she started getting texts from Kashmiri teenagers on Facebook asking for help.

"I remember, one evening when I opened my Facebook account, I saw messages flooding from **PAGE 02**

COVID-19 Claims 6th Victim 2 Pregnant Women, 3 Cops Among 42 Test Positive



Funeral prayers of Tangmarg resident who died due to coronavirus on Saturday

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: A 72-year-old man became the sixth COVID-19 fatality in Jammu and Kashmir even as 42 new cases of novel coronavirus were confirmed on Saturday in the Kashmir Valley, the biggest one day spike since the outbreak started.

Among the fresh cases include two pregnant women besides mother and her two minor sons as well as three policemen.

The spike is attributed to increase in the number of tests as J&K broke 1000 test barrier on Saturday with the number of people

tested rising to 1071.

"Finally J&K breaks the 1000 test barrier- 1071 samples tested in the last 24 hours. But that also means more positives," Principal Secretary Information and government spokesman Rohit Kansal tweeted.

Officials sources said of the among 42 cases, 28 were confirmed at Viral Diagnostic Lab of SKIMS Soura and include seven from Bandipora, three from Shopian as many as from Baramulla and one from Kupwara district.

The bulk of the cases—28—were confirmed at the COVID-19 testing laboratory at **PAGE 02**

DISTRICT WISE CASES

• Bandipora	115
• Srinagar	84
• Shopian	63
• Baramulla	55
• Kupwara	46
• Anantnag	38
• Jammu	26
• Udhampur	20
• Ganderbal	14
• Budgam	14
• Kulgam	6
• Rajouri	4
• Samba	4
• Pulwama	3

Kathua, Kishtwar and Ramban districts have one case each.

17 Recover, Discharged from 3 Hospitals

Seventeen persons, who were hospitalized after testing positive for Coronavirus last month, were discharged from three Kashmir hospitals today after repeatedly testing negative for the infection they had contracted.

Among these 17 persons, one is a non-local from Kerala who was tested positive after coming in contact with a Tablighi Jam'at **P-02**

Mosque in Bandipora Hotspot Sealed

Authorities Saturday sealed Central Mosque in a Bandipora area that is being declared as hot spot for Covid-19 infection.

Reports said that on the directions of district administration, Tehsildar Bandipora, sealed Markazi Masjid Sharif at Gund Qaisar village. The village has been declared as hot spot for the spread of Covid-19 infection. **P-02**

PSA Against 27, Yasin Khan Revoked

Srinagar: Authorities on Friday evening revoked the Public Safety Act (PSA) detention orders of 28 persons lodged in prisons within and outside J&K.

Sources disclosed that Home Department has revoked PSA detentions of 21 persons lodged in different jails outside J&K and seven others in Central Jail Srinagar.

The prominent in the list includes Muhammad Yasin Khan, who heads Kashmir Economic Alliance and Kashmir Traders and Manufacturers Federation (KTMF). Khan was detained by the J&K administration following the downgrading state of J&K into two UTs.

Apart from others, the detention orders of two close associates of Peoples Conference chairman Sajad Gani Lone have also been revoked. Ahead of abrogation of Article 370, police also rounded up activists of NC, PDP, PC from different parts of Kashmir. **PAGE 02**

Attack on Healthcare Workers Now A Non-bailable Offence

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The J&K Government has ordered strict action "including and not limited to Disaster Management Act or Epidemic Diseases (Amendment) Ordinance" against anyone who attacks any healthcare worker in Jammu and Kashmir.

In this regard, the Government has made the IGSP of Jammu, Kashmir and the District Superintendents of Police as Nodal Officers within their respective jurisdictions for ensuring adequate protection to the healthcare professionals, medical staff and frontline workers. The nodal officers have been asked to augment their safety and security cover.

"The Nodal Officers shall also take immediate and strict action in case of any incident of violence against them, including and not limited to

the provisions of the Disaster Management Act, 2005 and the Epidemic Diseases (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020," reads an order issued by Home department.

The order comes two days after MHA asked states and union territories to ensure adequate protection to healthcare professionals, medical staff and frontline workers by augmenting their safety and security cover.

"You are aware that the whole-hearted and untiring services rendered by the entire medical fraternity, while even risking their lives, has enabled the country to resist the spread of the highly infectious COVID-19 virus, that has already been declared as a pandemic by the World Health Organisation (WHO). At this time, any single incident of violence against healthcare professionals is likely to create a sense of insecurity amongst the entire **PAGE 02**

NECESSARY POLICE SECURITY BE ALSO extended to Doctors and other medical staff who visit places to conduct screening of people to find out symptoms of disease,"

Militants Killed In Awantipora Quietly Buried In Sonamarg

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Police on Saturday said three persons, including two militants were killed in an encounter with the government forces in Goripora area of Awantipora in south Kashmir's Pulwama district.

According to the Inspector General of Police, Kashmir Vijay Kumar two militants and their "hardcore associate" were killed in the gunfight.

He however said the identity of the slain militants was yet to be as-

certained.

The encounter had ensued after joint team of army's 50 RR, SOG and CRPF launched a cordon-and-search operation in Goripora in the early hours of Saturday amid specific information about the presence of some militants there.

All the three were quietly buried at Sonmarg in Ganderbal district by the police as per new norm to prevent large funerals for slain militants.

A police officer said that in order to ensure health and security of the

people during pandemic period, the administration has decided to conduct burial of militants at isolated places.

"Allowing funerals at the native places of killed militants would lead to the breakdown of the strict protocols of lockdown thereby endangering the health and well-being of the community at large," he added.

The administration have been following a proper procedure for such burials such as conducting of post-mortem and taking DNA samples of the deceased prior to their burial **PAGE 02**

PHE & IFC Renamed As 'Jal Shakti Dept'

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir administration has formally accorded sanction to renaming of the Public Health Engineering and Irrigation and Flood Control Department as the 'Jal Shakti Department'.

It ordered inclusion of the 'Jal Shakti Department' at serial No. 27-A in the first schedule of the J&K government business Rules and deletion of sub-entries (2) and (5) appearing at serial No. 27 (Public works) in the first schedule of the J&K government business.

The decision was taken at the Administrative Council, which met under the chairmanship of Lt Governor G C Murmu, on 5 February this year. The Administrative Council had also accorded sanction to the implementation of the Jal Jeevan Mission **P-02**

'Only One Way Open': Man Buys Truckload Of Onions To Drive To His Village

How do you travel from Mumbai to Allahabad when there is a lockdown? Buy 25 tonnes of onions, load them onto a truck and hit the road.

Desperate to reach his ancestral village on the outskirts of Allahabad, Prem Murti Pandey, who works at Mumbai airport, says he did just that.

He spent the first phase of the lockdown in Mumbai, but then it seemed that the restrictions could go on for a while.

"Actually Azad Nagar in Andheri East, where I live is a very congested area and there is a bigger risk there of coronavirus spreading," he told PTI.



Buses and trains don't run and flights are grounded during this lockdown to stop the spread of coronavirus.

"I realised that the government had left one way open," Pandey said, referring to the relaxation on the movement of essential commodities like fruit and vegetable.

His plan also involved watermelons -- 1,300 kilos of them.

On April 17, Pandey hired a mini-truck for Pimpalgaon near Nashik, about 200 km way. There, he bought the watermelons for Rs 10,000 and sent the vehicle back to Mumbai with the consignment.

He had already struck a deal with a buyer in Mumbai. Next, he studied the Pimpalgaon market for a good deal in onions.

Pandey said he bought 25,520 kilos of onions at Rs 9.10 per kg, shelling out Rs 2.32 lakh.

He then hired a truck for Rs 77,500 and set off on April 20 with the onions on a 1,200-km journey to Allahabad. **PAGE 02**

Amid Prayer And Penance, Ramazan Starts In Kashmir



Holy month of Ramazan began here Saturday as Muslims in Kashmir started their daily fasting period under a raging pandemic with mosques and shrines shut. KO Photo by Abid Bhat