



Maximum : 23°C
Minum : 11°C
Humidity : 60%

SUNSET
Today 07:12 PM
SUNRISE
Tomorrow 05:45 AM



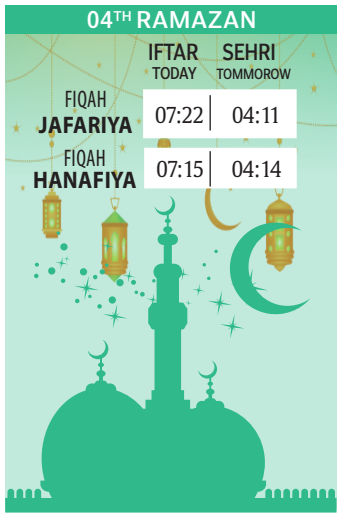
HOW CORONAVIRUS WILL FOREVER CHANGE THE AIRLINE INDUSTRY AND THE WAY WE FLY

Higher fares, fewer routes, pre-flight health checks and less free food: The coronavirus pandemic is ushering in a new era of air travel. A seismic shift is underway as the world's airlines reassess their operations and how they will look emerging from the crisis. At eerily empty airports, mask-wearing and social distancing already show a behavioural change among the few staff and travellers left. A long shakeup lies ahead that is set to touch almost every aspect of flying after limits

.....LIFE & TIMES

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News Digest



Learn From Home Through VMC

New Delhi: While the world is grappling with Coronavirus and the economy has hit a pause, certain sections of society such as students need to continue preparing for some of the toughest competitive exams like JEE & NEET. With the restrictions on conducting Classroom programs, most institutes are trying to find ways to teach students Online. At VMC, they had it covered even before the pandemic started as they had developed their own proprietary Online learning platform called VMC GURU. At VMC, all of their regular classroom batches are running on schedule, without any delay or disruption, with best of the faculties taking ●P-02

Modernisation Of Land Records

Srinagar, Apr 27 : Financial Commissioner, Revenue, Dr. Pawan Kotwal today held a Pre-bid video conference with prospective bidders to discuss their queries seeking amendment in the Request for proposal (RFP) floated on 5th of March, 2020 for inviting bids for modernization of land records in Jammu and Kashmir under DILRMP. During the course of meeting with the prospective bidders and survey expert/Consultant T L Sharma (Former Director Survey of India), the specific queries submitted by the prospective bidders were discussed in detail. The representative of these companies put forth their ●P-02

Opening Of Offices At Civil Sect

Srinagar: Secretary Youth Services and Sports Department, Sarmad Hafeez and Commissioner Secretary Floriculture, Gardens & Parks Department Sheikh Fayaz today chaired a joint meeting here to review the preparations being made for the opening of offices at Civil Secretariat here on May 04. The meeting was attended by Executive Engineer Secretariat, CMO Srinagar, Health Officer SMC, and other officials. Sarmad Hafeez who is also incharge Estates Department, visited various sections of the civil secretariat and expressed ●P-02

2 Year Old Among 23 More Covid-19 Cases In J&K

Fresh Positive Cases Include 13 Women

SRINAGAR: A two-year-old girl from the Shopian district on Monday became the youngest in Jammu and Kashmir to have tested positive for novel coronavirus. In all 23 fresh cases were reported in the last twenty-four hours and includes an expectant mother besides at least thirteen other women.

Among the fresh cases, 15 were confirmed at Viral Diagnostic Lab of SKIMS Soura and include five each from Baramulla and Shopian, three from Bandipora and one each from Budgam and Kupwara districts.

Seven other cases were confirmed at the COVID-19 testing laboratory at Chest Disease hospital Drugan and include six from Anantnag district and one from Srinagar.

Also, the Jammu division reported one fresh case—a 46-year-old, a native of Mahore Reasi with travel history to UP. His is the first case from Reasi district, the sources added.

Regarding the five cases from Shopian, the sources said includes 2-year-old girl and a ●PAGE 02



A HEALTH OFFICIAL takes swab sample for Covid-19 test of a city resident at a centre in Srinagar-KO Photo by Abid Bhat

Door-to-Door Health Survey in Srinagar

Authorities on Monday started door-to-door health survey across Srinagar in a bid for better planning & response for fight against COVID-19.

"Door-to-door health survey has started across Srinagar. We request all residents to cooperate with our teams on the ground and participate in this important health audit," Srinagar district administration wrote in its twitter handle. ●P-02

ONE AMONG THE WOMEN IS AN EXPECTANT MOTHER WITH
few just days left for her delivery. She has been shifted to SKIMS Bemina and would probably be referred to JLNH hospital for further treatment."

Prepare for Post 3rd May Scenario: LG To Officers

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor, Girish Chandra Murmu Monday called for preparing a comprehensive strategy for the post 3rd May scenario in advance to combat COVID-19 pandemic in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

The Lt Governor was chairing a meeting on COVID-19 control efforts at the Raj Bhavan soon after the interaction with the Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, through video conferencing, to discuss the emerging situation and plan ahead for tackling the COVID-19

pandemic.

Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to LG; BVR Subrahmanyam, Chief Secretary; Dilbag Singh, DGP; Atal Dulloo, Financial Commissioner Health and Medical Education; Shaleen Kabra, Principal Secretary to Government, Home Department; Bipul Pathak, Principal Secretary to LG attended the meeting.

LG underlined the importance of continued efforts at all levels of the administration in fight against coronavirus in the UT and asked the officers to formulate an

effective rapid response mechanism so that pro-active steps can be taken to deal with any emerging situation.

He observed that the increased testing is the key in identifying and combating covid-19 pandemic, and asked the officers to ensure the sustainability of the testing speed and to explore the possibilities of increasing the same. He directed for effective implementation of restrictions in Red-Zones to contain the spread of the deadly virus.

The Lt Governor ●PAGE 02

Free From Agra Jail Quarantined In Tral School

AGRA: Six Kashmiri youth released from UP's Agra Jail reached their native town Tral where they were quarantined in a school.

Over 200 Kashmiri's were detained in different jails of Uttar Pradesh among which some have been released. These arrests were made after the abrogation of special

status of Jammu and Kashmir in August last year.

Official sources said that six people, all hailing from Tral town, who were booked under Public Safety Act and lodged in Agra Jail were released, but shortly after reaching Tral, they were quarantined for a period of ●PAGE 02

369 Stranded Students Return Home

KATHUA - A group of 369 students, hailing from different districts of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, reached here on Monday from Kota in Rajasthan onboard 15 SRTC buses, officials said.

Soon after their arrival, they were screened for COVID-19 and later allowed to proceed to their home districts in the two Union Territories where they would undergo administrative quarantine before ●P-02

Govt Extends High Speed Internet Ban Till May 11

SRINAGAR: The Government on Monday ordered the continuation of the ban on high-speed internet in Jammu and Kashmir till May 11.

In a latest order issued by the Home Department, the reason cited for the decision includes spurt in militant violence, the launch of new outfits and "well-founded" apprehensions of the "field agencies" regarding "enhanced efforts by Pakistan for recruitment in the (militant) ranks as well as infiltration attempts, which heavily depend on high-speed internet."

"Such restrictions have been placed in order to curb uploading, downloading, circulation of provocative videos, guard against rumormongering, fake news, prevent the use of encrypted messaging and VOIP services for infiltration and co-ordinating (militant) activities, and defeat the nefarious designs from across the border to propagate (militancy)," reads the order issued here by Principal Secretary Home department, according to media reports.

It said the misuse of data services by "anti-national elements" has the potential to scale up violent activities and disturb public order, "which has till now been maintained ●P-02

J&K's Internet Restrictions Figure In UN Report

SRINAGAR: The United Nations Special Rapporteur on freedom of opinion and expression has said that limitations imposed by the government on internet in Jammu & Kashmir have made access to basic information difficult for healthcare professionals.

In his report titled "disease pandemics and the freedom of opinion and expression", UN rapporteur David Kaye has expressed concern over internet restrictions in Kashmir. "It has been reported by health-care professionals in Kashmir that the limitations imposed by the government have made access to basic information difficult to obtain," reads the report.

The report is being submitted ●P-02

Lower Munda Encounter Ends, Bodies Of 3 Militants Recovered



Soldiers at an encounter site- KO File photo

SRINAGAR: Three militants were killed in an encounter with government forces at Lower Munda area of Qazigund in south Kashmir's Kulgam district on Monday. Bodies of all the militants have been recovered, officials said.

The gunfight ensued after a joint team of Police, CRPF and army's 19 Rashtriya Rifles launched a cordon-and-search-operation in the area amid specific inputs about the presence of the militants. ●PAGE 02

4 Children Among 6 Injured In Blast Near Lower Munda Encounter Site

SRINAGAR: Four children were among six persons injured in a blast near encounter site at Lower Munda on Monday afternoon and one of them was referred to SMHS Srinagar hospital while three ●P-02

ACCORDING TO THE SENIOR
Superintendent of Police (SSP) Kulgam, Gurinderpal Singh the operation has ended with the killing of three militants.

People Hold Funeral Prayers in Absentia

Over hundred people, defying lockdown curbs, offered funeral prayers in absentia for Asif Dar, the militant reportedly killed in Lower Munda encounter on Monday morning. ●P-02

CASO Ends Without Success in Pulwama

Government forces Monday launched a Cordon and Search Operation (CASO) in a hamlet in South Kashmir's Pulwama districts. A cordon and search operation was launched in Putrigam ●P-02

Aug 5 Has Changed Geopolitical Situation: Bajwa

ISLAMABAD (PTI) - The Balakot airstrike and the abrogation of Article 370 of the Indian Constitution to bifurcate Jammu and Kashmir are the two significant events that will have a "lasting imprint" on the geopolitical situation of South Asia, according to Pakistan Army chief Gen Qamar Javed Bajwa.

In an article in the 'Green Book 2020', a research journal of the Pakistan Army which is recognised by the Higher Education Commission of Pakistan and published biennially, Gen Bajwa also describes Kashmir as a nuclear flashpoint.

General Bajwa being the Patron-in-Chief of the journal expressed his view in a ●P-02

Heavy Cross LOC Shelling Rattles Uri

Srinagar- Heavy firing and shelling exchanges started on Monday between Indian and Pakistan armies on the Line of Control (LoC) in Uri sector of Jammu and Kashmir.

Police sources said heavy exchange of fire started in Hajipier area as Pakistani troops started unprovoked firing and shelling, after which the Indian soldiers responded using same weapons. It was not immediately known whether the Pakistan shelling was intended to facilitate the infiltrations of militants into the Valley.

Till last reports came in, sporadic shelling exchanges were still going on in the area.

Doctors Panel Issues Advisory for Pollen Allergy

SRINAGAR: The J&K Society of Consultant Doctors (JKSCD) on Monday issued a health advisory ahead of the pollen season in Kashmir.

A statement issued by the JKSCD here said that a large proportion of the population reports seasonal symptoms related to pollen, the most common of which being itchy and watery eyes, nasal congestion, runny nose, persistent sneezing and in moderate to severe cases, wheezing and shortness of breath.

Although pollen allergies, including mild allergic asthma have not been identified as a major risk factor for COVID-19 infection, the JKSCD advised public to remain cautious.

Any moderate to severe asthma, irrespective of trigger, where patient needs daily treatment is included in the list of chronic lung conditions that make a patient vulnerable to COVID-19, it said.

President JKSCD, Dr Maajed Jehangeer, advised children and adults on maintenance medications for allergies such as inhaled corticosteroids and/or bronchodilators (inhalers), leukotriene inhibitors and/or antihistamines (allergy tablets) to continue their treatment as prescribed by their doctor.

Dr Jehangeer asked such patients not to discontinue their medication for fear of COVID-19. "It is very possible to have asymptomatic or almost asymptomatic COVID-19 and to mistake it for seasonal rhinitis/hay fever. Therefore, patients with hay fever should keep their symptoms under the best possible control and that means using intranasal corticosteroid inhalers and other medicines as prescribed by their doctor," Dr Jehangeer said.

He further emphasised that these drugs are not inadvisable, and there was a strong scientific evidence that intranasal steroid use for hay fever improves nasal innate immunity.

Dr Jehangeer said that those having hay fever/pollen allergy develop symptoms compatible with COVID-19 and they will need to self-isolate, inform their doctor and monitor their health as everyone else.

If progressive breathing difficulty develops prompt medical assistance should be sought, he said.

Although the definitive diagnosis of COVID-19 is not clinical and can be confirmed only through laboratory testing, Dr Jehangeer said that there are still some clinical signs that can differentiate between hay fever/pollen allergy and COVID-19 infection. "The term 'hay fever' is a misnomer as there is no fever in ●PAGE 02

2 Pairs Of Siblings Washed Away In Chadoora, Shopian Flash Floods

SRINAGAR: In two tragic incidents four young girls were washed away by flash floods in Central and South Kashmir on Monday.

In the first incident two minor sisters were killed due to flash floods triggered by heavy rains in the mountainous region of Chadoora area in central Kashmir's Budgam district in the morning and two sisters were carried away by currents in a Shopian village in

the evening while they were taking a stroll on a river bank.

Reports said that the two sisters namely Rumaisa (14) and Rukhsana (6) daughters of Ghulam Rasool Hajam were washed away in the flash floods at Rangwar Kul late in the afternoon.

The incident occurred when the two were grazing the cattle in the nearby field when suddenly the flash floods hit the area amid the

heavy rains, reports said.

Confirming the incident, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam Tariq Hussain Ganai said that the siblings were washed away resulting in their on the spot death due to the drowning. Soon after the incident, the searches were launched and bodies of the minors were recovered from a canal near Kutebal, the DC added. The Deputy Commissioner ●PAGE 02

DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE (DSP) WAJAHAT HUSSAIN
said that soon after the incident a search operation was launched to retrieve the bodies of the duo. When reports last came in at around 9 PM, the searches to find out the bodies were going on



SOLITUDE: On the second day of Ramazan, a man is seen praying on the banks of Dal Lake amid lockdown- KO Photo by Abid Bhat