

Maximum : 23°C
Minimum : 12°C
Humidity : 63%SUNSET
Today 07:17 PM
SUNRISE
Tomorrow 05:38 AMHEALTHCARE, EDUCATION
& ECONOMY IN POST
COVID WORLD

THE empty streets have become the new normal during the COVID-19 pandemic. The whole world has come to a sudden halt. The outbreak of COVID-19 has created a worldwide health catastrophe that has a deep impact on the way we perceive our world and our day to day lives. Not only the rate of contagion and patterns of transmission threatens our sense of agency, but the safety measures put in place to contain the spread of the virus also require social distancing by abstaining from doing what is naturally human, which is to find comfort in the company of others.....

.....OPINION
P4

News Digest

10 TH RAMAZAN		
IFTAR	SEHRI	
TODAY	TOMMOROW	
FIQAH HANAFIYA	07:19	04:06
FIQAH JAFARIYA	07:29	04:04

Grenade Lobbed At
CRPF in Nowshehra

Srinagar: Suspected militants lobbed a grenade at the paramilitary forces at Nowshehra area of old Srinagar Sunday afternoon. The grenade, hit the road and didn't explode. A police official said that a grenade was hurled at the joint party of police and paramilitary CRPF, deployed to enforce lockdown. "The grenade fell on the road and didn't" ● P-02

19 New Covid
Cases In Ladakh

Leh- As many as 19 people tested positive for coronavirus in Ladakh on Sunday, taking the virus tally in the union territory to 41, officials said. The new cases include 18 from Chuchot Yokma village of Leh, the biggest single-day spike in the region, the officials said. The village was declared a containment area on March 17 after three locals had tested positive for COVID-19. ● P-02

Leopard Kills 5
Sheep In Pattan

Baramulla: At least five sheep were killed and many injured in a leopard attack in north Kashmir's Pattan area on Sunday. Locals said that panic gripped in the Checki Pusnag area of Pattan after a leopard killed five sheep and injured several others in the village. A local Farooq Ahmad said that a leopard was roaming around in the village since ● P-02

Injured In Mishap,
Army Man Dies

Jammu: An Army man who had sustained injuries during an accident in Army's Corps Battle School (CBS) in Rajouri Sarol in Jammu division on Saturday evening, succumbed on Sunday. Officials said that accident took place on Saturday evening when army personnel were engaged in routine work in school. ● P-02

LG Pays Tributes To
Handwara Slain

JAMMU, MAY 03: Lieutenant Governor Girish Chandra Murmu today paid rich tributes to the Security Personnel who laid down their lives in an encounter with the terrorists in Handwara. The Lt Governor observed that the supreme sacrifice made by security personnel who ● P-02

Ladakh BJP Chief Quits
Party In Protest

SRINAGAR: Chering Dorjay, the Bharatiya Janata Party's president for Ladakh, has resigned from his post and the primary membership of the party to protest the "utter failure of UT Administration in evacuating passengers, patients, pilgrims and students stranded at different places throughout India." "The UT Administration is utterly insensitive and callous about the pathetic condition of our stranded people. The UT Administration has rendered autonomous hill councils of Leh and Kargil completely ineffective by not allowing them to function as per the council Act. The people of Ladakh have sacrificed a lot to achieve the autonomous status for the two districts," he wrote in a letter to JP Nadda, BJP National President. "I have expressed my doubts about these problems well in time to the party high command through video conferencing. I am pained to see the" ● PAGE 02

Colonel, Major, SOG SI Among 5
Security Men killed In Handwara
2 Militants Killed In Overnight Encounter

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Two senior army officers and a Sub-Inspector of police were among five security men— a Colonel, a Major and two soldiers of 21 Rashtriya Rifles besides a Sub Inspector of J&K Police's Special Operations Group —moved close to a cowshed near the house where the militants had taken refuge after escaping from nearby Rajwara forests on Friday afternoon. However, there was a standoff between them and militants amid inclement weather. The five men lost contact with colleagues on 'tour of duty'.

According to the reports after an initial fierce firefight, there was a lull following which five security men— a Colonel, a Major and two soldiers of 21 Rashtriya Rifles besides a Sub Inspector of J&K Police's Special Operations Group —moved close to a cowshed near the house where the militants had taken refuge after escaping from nearby Rajwara forests on Friday afternoon. However, there was a standoff between them and militants amid inclement weather. The five men lost contact with colleagues on 'tour of duty'.

Meanwhile, the army rushed more personnel including ● PAGE 02



Army soldiers marching towards an encounter site in Pulwama on Saturday.

Shell Explodes in Handwara, 4 Kids
Among 7 Injured

Seven persons, four of them minors, were injured after an explosive device went off while some kids were fiddling with it in Agham area of Rajwara Handwara in north Kashmir on Sunday. The incident occurred on Sunday afternoon when many boys were playing with the device found by two of them, Junaid Ahmad Khan (12) and his brother Tanveer Ahmad Khan (18) sons of Mohammad Ashraf Khan, from a forest area adjacent to their native Agham village, sources said. The Agham area, sources said, is around 1.5 kilometers by radius even as it is around four kilometers away ● P-02

Local Militant Among 2 Slain in
Handwara Gunfight: Officials

Buried in Sheeri along with two militants slain in Pulwama
The two militants killed in an encounter with a joint team of army and police in Handwara on Sunday have been identified and one of them includes a resident of Handwara, officials said on Sunday. A senior police officer said that slain duo includes Asif Reshi son of Mohammad Sultan Reshi of Gund Chabootra, Handwara and Hyder alias Iqbal, a resident of Pakistani controlled part of Kashmir. He said a case FIR (number 175/2020) under section 307 IPC, 7/25 Arms Act has been registered in connection with the encounter ● P-02

5 Security Men Died Saving Civilians Held Hostage: Army

Army on Sunday said that five security men including a Colonel and a Major besides a police officer who were killed after they "successfully extricated civilians held hostage by militants" in Chanjimullah Rajwar area of Handwara in north Kashmir's Kupwara district. "Based on the intelligence input that terrorists were taking the civilian inmates of a house in Chanjimul, Handwara of Kupwara district hostage, a joint operation was launched by Army and JK Police on 02 May 2020," Army's Srinagar based spokesman Col Rajesh Kalia in a statement issued here said. A team comprising of five Army and JK Police personnel entered the target area occupied by the militants ● P-02

Kashmir Saffron
Gets GI Tag, Finally

SRINAGAR: Department of Agriculture Kashmir has been granted Certificate of Registration by Registrar of Geographical Indication, Chennai, Government of India in respect of Kashmir Saffron. The Registered Proprietor of the G.I Kashmir Saffron is Director Agriculture, Kashmir, facilitated by SKUAST (K) and Saffron Research Station Dusso Pampore J&K.

Highlighting the achievement the Director Agriculture, Kashmir, Altaf Aijaz Andrabi said that GI is a sign on products that have a specific geographical origin and the product ● PAGE 02

J&K Chalks Out Plan For Phase-Wise
Return Of Stranded People

Press Trust of India

Jammu- The Jammu and Kashmir administration has chalked out a plan for the phase-wise return of the residents of the union territory including students and migrant labourers stranded in different parts of the country due to the COVID-19 lockdown, an official said on Sunday.

The administration, however, said all the returnees will be tested for coronavirus upon their arrival, the spokesperson said.

It also announced a 21-day institutional quarantine in Lakhampur, the gateway to Jammu and Kashmir, in Kathua district for all those who arrive without prior permission of the administration.



The official said that the decisions were taken by Chief Secretary B V R Subrahmanyam during a video conference interaction with Deputy Commissioners while discussing the action plan for allowing local students and migrant labour

to return. The government has already initiated the process of bringing back students and labourers stuck in other states in a very controlled and regulated manner. More than 18,000 locals have reached Lakhampur between April 25 and ● PAGE 02

...COVID-19: J&K TALLY CROSSES 700 MARK

8 Minors Among
35 Test Positive

J&K breaks barrier of 2000 tests a day, says Rohit Kansal
Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: As the Jammu and Kashmir government increased its testing capacity, 35 fresh cases of COVID-19 were reported on Sunday taking the tally of total number of positive cases to 701.

Government spokesman, Rohit Kansal in a tweet said that the Jammu and Kashmir has increased the testing capacity, saying that over 2500 people were tested in a day, thereby the target of 2000 tests a day stands broken.

He said that the positive cases have crossed 700 mark 35 more people tested positive today, taking the toll of positive cases to 701, adding 648 among them belong to Kashmir division.

"Finally J&K breaks the 2000 tests a day barrier. Over 2500 tests conducted in a day. New positives

35; Recoveries 33. Total Cases now 701(Kashmir 640, Jammu 61)," Kansal tweeted.

Officials said that out of 35 new cases, 34 are from Kashmir and one from Jammu division, adding that out of 34 tested positive in Kashmir division, 24 were tested at SKIMS Lab and 10 at CD hospital.

Among the new 34 new cases from Kashmir division, 11 are from Kupwara, 10 from Anantnag, 05 from Budgam, 04 from Shopian, 03 from Baramulla and one from Pulwama

Dr G H Yattoo Nodal officer for Covid-19 at SKIMS said that out of 826 samples tested in last 24 hours, 24 were found positive, adding that among them 11 are from Kupwara, 05 from Budgam, 04 from Shopian, 03 from Baramulla and 01 from Pulwama.

According to Dr Salim Khan Nodal officer for Covid-19 at GMC Srinagar out of 846 samples taken, 10 were tested positive who all belong to Anantnag district.

He further added that ● PAGE 02

A Salute to Corona Warriors
IAF Jets Shower Petals
On Covid Hospitals

Press Trust of India

New Delhi: India's air force flew aircraft low over more than a dozen cities on Sunday, part of a nationwide campaign by the armed forces to thank healthcare workers and other essential services personnel fighting the coronavirus outbreak.

So far India has recorded nearly 40,000 coronavirus cases and more than 1,300 deaths amid a weeks-long nationwide lockdown to contain the spread of the virus.

In the southern city of Bengaluru, a helicopter showered flowers over Victoria Hospital, as doctors and other medical workers in hospital gowns and masks cheered on, local television showed. A military band played alongside.



In the financial capital ● PAGE 02

Pregnant Lady Dies At Anantnag
Hospital, Medical Officer Suspended
Family Alleges Medical Negligence Led To Lady's Death

ANANTNAG: A pregnant lady of South Kashmir's Anantnag district died due to alleged medical of doctors of Sub district hospital Seer Hamdan Anantnag, forcing the top health officials in the area to rush to the hospital and take a stock.

Officials said that a pregnant lady namely Shakeela wife of Zahoor Ahmad resident of Salia, Anantnag was admitted at Sub District Hospital Anantnag on Saturday night and was later shifted to MCH Anantnag where she breathed her last on Sunday morning.

Soon after her death, the family members and relatives of the lady assembled outside sub district

hospital Seer and alleged that the lady died due to medical negligence of doctors at Seer.

They alleged that doctors delayed her treatment and later asked to shift her to Maternity and child Care hospital.

Soon after the protest a team of high officials reached to the spot and assured the family that matter will be investigated and officials involved in negligence will be punished.

After the assurance of high officials, protest was called off and dead body was taken to her native area Salia for last rites.

Meanwhile, Block ● PAGE 02

COVID-19: Distancing Is A Dream For These Migrant Labourers In Kashmir

AtharParvaiz

At a time when social and physical distancing has become extremely important because of the threat of coronavirus infections around the world, migrant labourers from Bihar, UP and Punjab, who are presently struggling to find any work because of restrictions due to the COVID-19 related lockdown, continue to stay within small rented rooms in groups.

Health experts and the global health organization, World Health Organization (WHO), have been constantly emphasizing that not only social distancing, but

physical distancing should also be maintained by people in order to curb the spread of coronavirus infections. This is why governments are not allowing gatherings even at religious places and people themselves hesitate to congregate in religious places. There are reports from various places across Kashmir that only upto three people (including Imam)

The deadly virus has killed over 244,000 people around the world and over 1300 in India. In Kashmir, the number of COVID positive has been alarmingly increasing especially when considered in terms of infections per million of population.

But social or physical distancing is something migrant labourers (mostly Biharilabourers), who



have not been able to return to their homes in other states, find

hard to come terms with.

Near Shalteng crossing, in the western part of the Srinagar city, I met eight labourers who were staying in a room with dimensions of 10x10 feet. All of them are from Bihar and they have now given up the hope of returning to their homes.

"Earlier (when the lockdown began) we were very desperate to go back to our homes, but we couldn't get any transport," said Anup Kumar, a Biharilabourer. "Now, we think it is all the same if we stay here or go home. The situation is same everywhere," he added. According to Kumar, there is no work for migrant labourers or local labourers these days given

the restrictions due to lockdown.

"If we had some work at construction sites or elsewhere, it would not be difficult. But we have to stay indoors all day and night," Kumar said.

"We are aware about the Corona disease. It is very dangerous. We have also heard that people should maintain distance and a lot of people should not be staying in a single room. But, what can we do? We can't afford a large room on rent," said Ganesh, Kumar's roommate.

"So, yes, it is a risk which we are taking. If any one of us contracts the infection, all of us will fall sick and may probably die. But, we can't do" ● PAGE 02