



Maximum : 23°C
Minimum : 13°C
Humidity : 58%

SUNSET
Today 07:21 PM
SUNRISE
Tomorrow 05:34 AM

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INTENSIVE FARMING MAY LEAD TO ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANT PATHOGENS, HIGHER RISK OF EPIDEMICS: SCIENTISTS

Intensive farming techniques have led to a common antibiotic-resistant pathogen to become capable of infecting both cattle and humans, according to a study which suggests the need to check agriculture practices for such outbreaks. The scientists, including those from the University of Sheffield in the UK, investigated the evolution of *Campylobacter jejuni*, a bacterium carried by chickens and cattle, and a leading cause of food poisoning. Based on their findings, published in the journal PNAS, the researchers said the bacterium is able to infect more than one species because

.....LIFE & TIMES
P6



News Digest

15 TH RAMAZAN		
IFTAR	SEHRI	
TODAY	TOMMOROW	
FIQAH HANAFIYA	07:23	04:00
FIQAH JAFARIYA	07:34	08:58

IAF Mig-29 Crashes In Punjab

Nawanshahr (Punjab) - A Mig-29 fighter aircraft of the Indian Air Force (IAF) crashed in Chuharpu village here on Friday due to a technical snag and burst into flames, officials said. The pilot ejected safely and has been rescued, they said. "A fighter jet crashed in Chuharpu village here," Nawanshahr • P-02

30 More BSF Men Test Covid Positive

New Delhi: Thirty more Border Security Force personnel, including two posted at its headquarters in Delhi, have tested positive for COVID-19, taking the overall infections in the force to 223, officials said on Friday. The border guarding force has the maximum confirmed cases of the disease among the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs), also known • P-02

Migrant Workers Ransack Mill In Kathua

Jammu: Jammu and Kashmir Police Friday lobbed teargas shells and resorted to lathicharge to disperse over 5,000 workers of the Chenab Textile Mill, who first ransacked their administrative block in protest over the deduction of their wages by the management and then • P-02

Forces Launch CASO In Shopian Village

Shopian: Government Forces Friday launched a Cordon and Search Operation (CASO) in a village in South Kashmir after receiving inputs about the presence of militants, official sources said. They said on a tip off about the presence of militants, soldiers from 62 Rashtriya Rifles, Special Operation Group (SOG) of Jammu and Kashmir police and • P-02

Siblings Injured In Rajouri Mishap

Rajouri: Three persons were on Friday injured after the vehicle they were travelling in met with an accident in Kewal village of Budhal on Rajouri Budhal road. Officials said that an accident took place on Friday evening when a vehicle bearing registration number JK11D-5720 skidded off the road at Kewal. Police said that three persons • P-02

J&K Covid-19 Tally Rises To 823 14 Industrial Unit Workers Among 30 Test Positive

Ailing Father Of 32-Yr-Old Victim From Srinagar, Woman Who Delivered Inside Car In Kulgam Also Among Fresh Cases; 29 More People Recover

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The number of positive cases for Covid-19 in Jammu and Kashmir crossed 800-mark on Friday with 30 new cases reported from five districts of the Kashmir Valley.

Official sources said Budgam district reported 15 fresh cases, Kulgam 8, Ganderbal and Srinagar three each while Baramulla reported one case. With these cases, the overall tally has gone upto 823-755 in Kashmir and 68 in Jammu. Among them 450 are active positive as 364 have recovered while 9 others have died.

Farooq Jan, Medical Superintendent SKIMS said that seven cases were confirmed at Viral Diagnostic Lab of the tertiary care



KO-Photo by Abid Bhat

hospital.

However, bulk of these cases, 23, were confirmed at Covid-19 testing lab at CD hospital, sources said.

Among the fresh cases, they said, include 15 from Budgam district and 14 of them are workers at FIL Industries Limited at Rengreth which deals with agrochemicals and fruit juice concentrates etc. Besides, the new cases include pregnant woman and 25-year-old who had delivered baby inside a

car while she was being taken to Kulgam hospital where she was admitted later, officials said.

Divisional Commissioner Kashmir P K Pole said Industries Department "might have given the permission" to FIL Industries to carry operations under essential services category.

However, he said, social distancing measures are still being undertaken and strictly followed.

The 15 cases from Budgam include 5 persons from • PAGE 02

MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT OF DISTRICT HOSPITAL KULGAM confirmed that the 25-year-old woman delivered inside the vehicle and was later admitted to Kulgam hospital. "The doctor and nurses who came in contact with the woman have been moved to quarantine," he said, adding, "The woman is under treatment".

JK Govt Arranges Spl Trains To Bring Back Stranded Residents

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir government is arranging special trains for its residents stranded across the country due to the lockdown and will bear the cost of the tickets, even as 30,000 people have so far returned to the UT with proper regulation, the Home Department said on Friday.

"Train services are being arranged for stranded persons of J-K, particularly from far off places. These trains will start arriving shortly and necessary coordination with the sending states as also with Railway authorities is going on," a statement from the UT's Home Department said.

It said the Jammu and Kashmir government has decided to bear the cost of the tickets.

He said that after the announcement made by the Ministry of Home Affairs on April 29, 2020 of allowing movement of stranded persons with certain conditions, the Government has issued a SOP on April 30, 2020.

"Further, Government of J&K has collected details of stranded persons who wish to return to J&K by providing web links for registration. Arrangements are being made for their arrival in an orderly manner while adhering to the norms of social distancing and undertaking testing so as to ensure that timely action is taken to prevent any spread of Covid-19 in the UT of J&K".

He said that approximately 30,000 persons have entered • PAGE 02



KO-Photo by Abid Bhat

Flight From Dhaka Lands In Srinagar With 167 Students

SRINAGAR: A special flight, carrying 167 medical students hailing from Jammu and Kashmir, arrived here from Bangladesh capital Dhaka on Friday as part of the government efforts to bring back nationals stranded abroad.

"Total 167 students arrived at Srinagar airport in the special flight from Dhaka this afternoon," an official said. • P-02

Stranded Kashmiri's in Dubai Want Direct Flight to Srinagar

SRINAGAR: Hundreds of Kashmiri's stranded in Dubai and other emirates of the UAE have urged Indian authorities to arrange direct flights from Dubai to Srinagar for their smooth return to Kashmir.

Shakeel Ahmad a representative of stranded Kashmiri's appealed Indian authorities to ensure their

return to Kashmir without any further delay. He said there are almost 400 Kashmiri's stranded in Dubai alone and they include elderly, kids, pregnant women and other patients suffering from different ailments. "All stranded Kashmiri's are in distress as their repeated pleas didn't yield any

positive response so far", he said.

According to Shakeel they have been informed by the Indian Consulate in Dubai they travel will be facilitated only upto New Delhi.

"We fear that incoming Kashmiri's will be quarantined in an 'unfavourable' atmosphere there and that would be beyond the • PAGE 02

UN Chief Says Pandemic Is Unleashing A 'Tsunami Of Hate'



UNITED NATIONS- UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said Friday the coronavirus pandemic keeps unleashing a tsunami of hate and xenophobia, scapegoating and scare-mongering.

The UN chief said anti-foreigner sentiment has surged online and in the streets, anti-Semitic conspiracy theories have spread, and COVID-19-related anti-Muslim attacks have occurred.

Guterres said migrants and refugees have been vilified as a source of the virus - and then denied access to medical treatment.

With older persons among the most vulnerable, contemptible memes have emerged suggesting they are also the most expendable, he said. And journalists, whistleblowers, health professionals, aid workers and human rights defenders are being targeted simply for doing their jobs.

Guterres appealed for an all-out effort to end hate speech globally. The secretary-general called on political leaders to show solidarity with all people, on educational • P-02

16 Migrant Workers Crushed To Death In Sleep By Train In Maharashtra

KO Web Desk

AURANGABAD- At least 16 migrant workers sleeping on rail tracks were crushed to death by a goods train in Aurangabad district of Maharashtra on Friday morning, police said.

Tens of thousands of people have been walking home from India's big cities after being laid off because of the lockdown to contain the spread of the novel coro-

"They had been walking all night, they were exhausted and fell asleep on the tracks," a police officer said.

The workers, who were walking to Bhusawal from Jalna in central Maharashtra had fallen asleep on the track, an official at the Karmad police station told PTI.

"The labourers, working in a steel factory in Jalna, left for their home state on foot last night. They came till Karmad and slept off on



navirus since late March.

Under the lockdown, all public transport has been suspended so migrant workers heading home often have to walk long distances to get there.

The government has extended the lockdown until May 17.

the tracks as they were tired," police officer Santosh Khetmalas said.

Fourteen workers lost their lives in the accident, while two others were injured, he said, adding three labourers who were also part of the group survived as they were sleeping some • PAGE 02

THEY HAD BEEN WALKING ALL NIGHT, they were exhausted and fell asleep on the tracks,"

Mobile Voice Calls Restored SMS, Internet Services Remain Shut In Kashmir

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Authorities on Friday tightened restrictions across Kashmir Valley even as mobile voice calls were restored late in the night while mobile internet continued to remain shut in the Kashmir Valley on the third day following the killing of Hizb-ul-Mujahideen Commander Riyaz Naikoo along with associate in a gunfight on May 6.

Barring minor clashes in Beighpora Awantipora in Pulwama district, the home town

of the slain commander and Nasrullahpora Budgam, the situation remained peaceful across Kashmir Valley, the officials said.

Reports said there a group of protesters pelted stones on deployments of police and paramilitary forces at Beighpora and adjoining areas. However, police and paramilitary forces chased them away by firing few teargas canisters. However there were no reports about any serious injury to anyone in the incident.

Naikoo and his associate Adil Ahmad were killed • PAGE 02

DSP, PSO Among Several Injured In Budgam Clashes

A Deputy Superintendent of Police and his PSO were among several persons injured in clashes in Nasrullahpora locality in central Kashmir's Budgam district. SSP Budgam Nagpure Amod said some miscreants were forcing shops dealing with essential commodities to shut and a police team headed by Deputy Superintendent of Police Fayaz Hussain visited the locality to disperse them. He said DySP Fayaz sustained head injury while his PSO also suffered injury and were removed to hospital. • P-02

J&K Witnesses Decline In Infant Mortality Rate

IMR Down From 52 Per 1000 Live Births In 2005 To 22 In 2018

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: J&K has been able to achieve 'remarkable improvement' in multiple indicators related to maternal and child health in the recent years—with notable progress in reducing infant mortality rate (IMR).

The infant mortality rate has been reduced from 52 (2005) to 22 (2018) as per the latest data released by Registrar General of India in SRS Bulletin today. The current national average of infant mortality rate stands at 32 much higher than that of the J&K State. Shri Atal Dullo, Financial Commissioner to Govt. Health & Medical Education Department and Shri

Bhupinder Kumar, Mission Director NHM, J&K has appreciated the efforts of Govt. Medical Colleges; Directorate of Health Services, Family Welfare, ISMall the field functionaries including doctors, paramedical staff, ASHA workers & Programme Management Unit staff for their continued efforts to improve maternal and newborn care in the State which has resulted in continuous decrease in Infant Mortality Rate. They have stressed for sustained efforts in future for better health care service delivery so as to further improve the maternal and child health indicators in the coming years. The entire Health and Medical Education Department • PAGE 02

Revival Of Construction And Economic Activities High Level Meet Discusses Post Lockdown Action Plan

Observer News Service

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor, Girish Chandra Murmu Friday chaired a high level meeting at Raj Bhavan to discuss the overall strategy and effective steps to be taken to ensure the revival of construction and other economic activities in J&K, besides the regular assessment of efforts of the government for prevention, containment, and management of COVID-19.

BVR Subrahmanyam, Chief Secretary; A. K. Mehta, Financial Commissioner, Finance, Bipul Pathak, Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor; Dheeraj Gupta, Principal Secretary, Housing and Urban



Development; Shailendra Kumar, Principal Secretary, Public Works (R&B), Manoj Kumar Dwivedi, Commissioner/Secretary, Industries and Commerce, Ajeet Kumar Sahu; Commissioner Secretary, Jal Shakti Department and Sheetal Nanda, Secretary, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, attended the meeting.

As part of the proactive approach, the Governor directed officers to do an objective assessment of the situation and plan accordingly for ensuring the revival of economic activity. He emphasized on devising meticulous strategies after the initial assessment and called for intuitive, innovative, and • PAGE 02

Police Officers Comment On CRPF Sparks Controversy

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: A comment made by Kashmir inspector general of police Vijay Kumar on the CRPF's role in counter-terrorism operations has stirred a controversy among the forces deployed in the valley, officials said on Friday.

They said IGP Kumar, during a meeting of joint forces at the district police lines in Baramulla on April 29 chaired by DGP Dilbag Singh, reportedly commented that the paramilitary force is a showpiece and the actual operations are conducted by the Army, its elite unit Rashtriya Rifles (RR) with the help of intelligence generated by the state police. Kumar, a 1997-batch Indian Po-

lice Service officer, is stated to have said that the work of CRPF in Kashmir operations has not been good and he knows it better as he himself had served in the paramilitary force on deputation earlier. Officials said senior CRPF officers present in the meeting did not take the comments kindly and they later confronted Kumar about his "unpleasant" utterances against their force.

Senior state police officials said the issue has created controversy after a section of security forces commanders said the comment was aimed to create a rift among sister forces working against militancy and terrorism in Kashmir Valley. As the issue refused to die down and senior CRPF commanders • PAGE 02