



Maximum : 22°C
Minimum : 13°C
Humidity : 61%

SUNSET
Today 07:24 PM
SUNRISE
Tomorrow 05:31 AM

OBSERVER

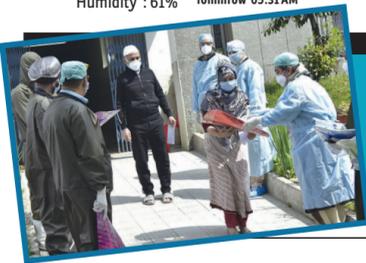
23rd year OF PUBLICATION

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HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO RECOVER FROM COVID-19?

Rome: When Morena Colombi tested negative for the coronavirus March 16, the official tallies counted her among the COVID-19 recoveries, a success amid the tragedies overwhelming Italy. But she was nowhere near recovered, her cough and crippling fatigue nowhere near gone. Five weeks later, on April 21, she returned to her job developing colours for a cosmetics company, but with shortness of breath and aching muscles, she found herself unable to take even short walks. Another test confirmed that she was no longer infected. But 11 weeks after testing positive.....

.....LIFE & TIMES
P6

News Digest

19 TH RAMAZAN		
IFTAR	SEHRI	
TODAY	TOMMORROW	
FIQAH HANAFIYA	07:26	03:55
FIQAH JAFARIYA	07:36	03:53

2 CRPF Officers Commit Suicide

Srinagar- Two Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) officers committed suicide by shooting themselves dead with their service rifles in two separate incidents in Kashmir valley on Tuesday. A CRPF sub-inspector identified as GD Fateh Singh (851290185) S/o Eidan Singh of Jaisalmer Rajasthan committed suicide after shooting himself with his service rifle at Akrun Mattan area. **P-02**

Police Claims 4 Militant Associates Arrested

Srinagar: Police on Tuesday claimed to have busted a module of Jaish-e-Muhammad militant associates by arresting four of its members in Khrew area of south Kashmir's Pulwama district. In a statement issued today, a police spokesperson said that four militant associates identified as Shabir Ahmad Parry, Sheeraz Ahmad Dar, Shafat Ahmad Mir and Ishfaq Ahmad Shah, all residents of Bathen area of Khrew were arrested. The accused, **P-02**

19 Lockdown Violators Held: Police

Srinagar: Police said on Tuesday that 19 people, including a dozen shopkeepers were arrested from Srinagar and Ganderbal districts of the Valley for defying government imposed orders aimed to contain spread of coronavirus pandemic in the Union Territory. In Srinagar, 12 shopkeepers were arrested from Jehlum Market in uptown Batmaloo for defying government orders, a police spokesperson said. He said cases under relevant sections of law have been **P-02**

Man Held For Raping Deaf And Dumb Woman

Jammu: A man was arrested on Tuesday for allegedly raping a deaf and dumb woman after the victim delivered a baby at a hospital in Poonch district of Jammu and Kashmir, police said. The man was arrested from a village in Mendhar sub-division and booked under rape charges, a police official said. He said police acted against the accused after the 20-year-old unmarried victim delivered a baby boy at the district hospital Poonch Monday evening. **P-02**

PM Modi Says New Rules For Lockdown 4.0 Soon

Announces Rs 20 Lakh Crore Economic Package



Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday indicated that the nationwide lockdown to stop the spread of novel coronavirus will be extended but will have completely different contours and rules.

In a televised address to the nation, Prime Minister also announced a consolidated economic package of Rs 20 lakh crore to help

make India self-reliant in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic.

Modi said that Lockdown 4.0 will be completely different from those seen yet in its guidelines and rules.

"Scientists say that COVID-19 will be a part of our lives for a very long time. But we can't let our lives remain confined around COVID-19. We will wear masks and maintain social distancing but we will not let it affect us. So, **PAGE 02**

55 More Test Covid Positive in J&K

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Coronavirus cases in Jammu and Kashmir crossed 900-mark after 55 fresh positive cases, highest ever spike since THE pandemic outbreak, were reported from the Union Territory on Tuesday.

"Fifty-five new cases have been reported from Jammu and Kashmir in the last 24 hours," the officials said adding that twenty-eight more patients have recovered and were discharged from various hospitals.

Of fresh cases, 42 were reported from Kashmir and 13 from Jammu division. In Kashmir, 27 cases were reported from Kulgam, 10 from Kupwara, 4 from Anantnag and 1 from Shopian district.

The total number of positive cases in Jammu and Kashmir has now risen to 934.

Ten Kupwara cases are from Gonipora Handwara include a 3-year-old and 6-year-old boys, 3 men—aged 26, 30 and 58 besides five women—aged 18, 20, 24, 26 and 45-years-old. One case from Shopian include 41-year-old male from Pandshan while one of the Anantnag cases who tested positive at SKIMS is a 40-year-old female from Bijbhera Anantnag.

Sources said that 35 persons mostly from Kulgam and Jammu division districts were confirmed last night and youngest **PAGE 02**

Govt Extends High-Speed Internet Ban In J&K

Complete Ban On Internet To Continue In Pulwama, Shopian For Now

SRINAGAR- The Jammu and Kashmir Government on Tuesday extended ban on high-speed internet till May 27 even as 2G service shall remain suspended in Pulwama and Shopian district for now.

Among others, the government has cited use of high speed mobile internet for coordinating acts of militancy, both within and from across the border.

"Over the past two weeks, there has been a sharp increase in (militancy) related incidents, ranging from isolated attacks on civilians, hurling of grenades in public places, indiscriminate firing and attacks on the security forces' personnel deployed on Naka duties to enforce restrictions to contain COVID-19," it said, adding, "(There has been) increased presence of (militants) in the thickly populated areas and engagements with



Security Forces leading to killing of (militants) and recovery of arms and ammunition," reads an order issued by the Home department. The government said it has been reported that there have been concerted efforts by the "Pak handlers to cause incitement among the general public, particularly youth,

through circulation of varied nature of "propaganda audios, videos and photographs, while continuing with attempts to spread misinformation and fake news. Despite serious concerns related to spread of COVID-19, there have even been instances of stone pelting at militant encounter sites." **PAGE 02**

GIVEN THE AVAILABILITY OF FIXED LINE INTERNET

connectivity without any speed related restrictions and taking cognizance of the fact that mobile internet connectivity at 2G speed does not cause any impediment in taking measures concerning control of COVID-19, it is considered appropriate that while the mobile internet is restored in the Kashmir Valley excluding Pulwama and the adjoining district of Shopian, it is restricted to 2G speed,"

Kashmiri Girls In Bangladesh: 'We Fear Being Left Out'

Jyotsna Bharti

NEW DELHI: Alarm bells ring in pandemic when Srinagar-based newsrooms receive back-to-back SOS pleading evacuation. Senders of these disturbing dispatches are mostly Kashmiri students caught in the Covid crisis in some faraway land.

One such mail came from Bangladesh on the afternoon of May 11, 2020.

The sender was a medical student stranded along with her

classmates in the country where the viral upsurge has unnerved all and sundry.

"With all the due respect," the

mail read, "we the students of KUMUDINI WOMENS MEDICAL COLLEGE BANGLADESH would like to bring in your **PAGE 02**

First Train With 1,000 Stranded Reaches Udhampur

A special train from Bengaluru carrying nearly 1,000 passengers reached Udhampur on Tuesday, marking the beginning of the return of Jammu and Kashmir residents stranded outside the Union Territory by rail. Earlier, 40,000 residents were transported by road via Lakhapur - the gateway to the UT bordering Punjab. The train reached Udhampur at 11.30 am after a **P-02**

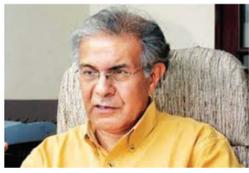
Former CIC Points Out Lapses In J&K Reorganisation Act

Urges President To Get Issue Examined By Legal Experts

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Former Chief Information Commissioner Wajahat Habibullah has pointed out lapses in the enactment of Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019, saying that the BJP-led government has not included the Legislative Assembly of J&K in the Electoral College through which Presidential elections are held.

In a letter addressed to the President of India Ram Nath Kovind, Habibullah draws attention to what he describes as "significant consti-



tutional lapse" that according to him has occurred in the course of enacting Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019.

"The J&K Reorganisation Act contains no provision to amend **PAGE 02**

GNS Editor-In-Chief Passes Away

SRINAGAR- Tanveer-ul-Ahad, Editor-in-Chief of Srinagar based news wire 'Global News Service' and daily 'Kashmir Glory' newspaper passed away on Monday late night.

Tanveer breathed his last at SMHS hospital Srinagar on Monday late night after a brief spell of illness.

A resident of Muqam Shawali area of Kupwara district, Tanveer is survived by wife and three minor kids. **P-02**



MAINTAINING SOCIAL DISTANCING, a group of boys reading Holy Quran at a seminary in Srinagar on Monday. Pic Abid Bhat

Tension Simmering In Eastern Ladakh; 'Chinese Helicopters Spotted'

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI- Tension is simmering along the India-China border with troops of the two countries maintaining a close watch on each other in the Pangong Tso lake area in Eastern Ladakh, days after nearly 250 soldiers from both sides were engaged in a violent face-off that left many of them injured, sources have confirmed.

At least a couple of Chinese military helicopters were spotted flying close to the un-demarcated Sino-India border in the area after the fierce face-off on May 5 following which a fleet of Sukhoi-30 jets of the In-



dian Air Force too carried out sorties there, the sources said.

The troops on both sides held on to

their respective positions and even reinforcements were brought in an apprehension of further **PAGE 02**

4G Order: 'Umpire Asks Batsman To Decide Whether He's Out Or Not'

Swati Joshi

HOURS after the Supreme Court of India announced the much-awaited 4G order, a Kashmiri student preparing for competitive exams messaged Kanan Gopinath, the former IAS officer who last year resigned from the service to protest against New Delhi's decision to abrogate the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir's special status.

"Supreme court was our last hope," the student told Gopinath according to his tweet. "But now it's broken."

The student who has completed his board exams complained of no

support from mainstream media and political leaders. With two months remaining for the exams, the student requested the former IAS officer to raise the issue on national media.

On Monday, the Supreme Court of India declined the pleas for restoration of 4G internet services in the valley in its judgment. The top court taking cognizance of the "concerns" relating to Covid-19 and the "hardships" faced by people has ordered to set up a "special committee" comprising of Secretary of Ministry of Communications, Chief Secretary of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, headed by the Union Home Secretary.

The judgment by the apex court received a plethora of responses from netizens.

"Strange times," one netizen tweeted, reacting to the verdict, "Umpire asks batsman to decide whether he is out or not."

The special committee formed by the apex court would examine the "contentions of and the material placed" by both the petitioners and respondents. The top court directed the committee to scrutinize the alternatives suggested by petitioners regarding limiting of internet speed in certain areas and allowing 3G and 4G on a trial basis over certain "geographical areas".

Considering that high-speed in-



ternet was banned by the Bhartiya Janta Party-led central government, the judgment puts the ball back

into the government's court. "...For 4G in Kashmir SC ropes in Govt Agencies in decision **PAGE 02**

Stone-Crushers To Start Operations In J&K

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir administration Tuesday allowed the operation of stone-crushers in the union territory after 50 days of closure due to coronavirus lockdown.

The Department of Industries and Commerce allowed the operation of stone-crushers with a view to ensure supply of construction material such as sand and stone aggregate, especially for ongoing development projects, an official spokesman said. Brick kilns have already resumed their operations in the Union Territory from April 16.

The Government of J&K has allowed some select additional activities for resumption of construction

activities during the lockdown period by the construction departments.

The representatives of Industry have highlighted the necessity of operation of Stone Crushers to meet the demand of sand and aggregate. Industries & Commerce Department examined the issues and allowed the Stone Crushers as covered under government order to operate subject to fulfillment of all requisite norms as prescribed by the Government of J&K for operation of Stone Crushers, the spokesman said.

He said Director Industries and Commerce, Jammu, Anoo Malhotra, and Director Industries & Commerce Kashmir, Mahmood Ahmad Shah, issued separate orders for operation of stone-crushers in their **PAGE 02**