



Maximum : 26°C
Minum : 13°C
Humidity : 59%

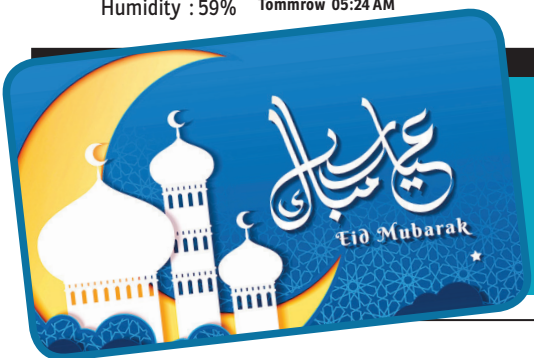
SUNSET
Today 07:32 PM
SUNRISE
Tomorrow 05:24 AM

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DON'T LET THE CORONAVIRUS KILL THE EID SPIRIT

When I think of the Eid, my mind automatically projects images of large family gatherings, my father's traditional brunch attended by friends and neighbours and the happy faces of children running around holding on to their 'eidiah', the money given to them by grown-ups on the morning of Eid. But this Eid Al Fitr is very different. Social distancing, although a must nowadays, has taken the spirit out of the otherwise joyous occasion. My small family is celebrating this Eid at home. The boys will be on their computer stations all day, I guess. They did exactly that in Ramadan. It is pity they will miss the usually cheerful occasion.....

.....OPINION
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News Digest

LG Extends Eid Greetings

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Girish Chandra Murmu on Saturday conveyed heartiest congratulations to people of the Union Territory on the auspicious occasion of 'Eid-ul-Fitr'. In his message, the Lt Governor urged the people to celebrate this festival, adhering to the guidelines and norms issued by the administration in view of the emerging situation due to the outbreak of the Coronavirus pandemic. The festival is one of many examples of India's multi-dimensional culture. May this festival promote and

• P-02

Mortar Shell Defused Near LoC

JAMMU: A mortar shell, which had remained unexploded during Pakistani shelling, was detected in a farm near the Line of Control (LoC) in Rajouri district of Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday, officials said. The rusted shell was unearthed when a farmer was busy ploughing his field with a tractor at Darshan Nagar locality of Nowshera sector, the officials said. They said the Army's bomb disposal squad rushed to the spot and safely defused the mortar shell, averting a major tragedy.

Man Booked For Hiding Travel History

JAMMU: A man was booked in Samba district of Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday for hiding his travel history, police said. Sunny had travelled from Punjab to his Jatwal village of Ghagwal, crossing various contamination zones using his private vehicle and had not disclosed his travel history to the authorities, a police spokesman said. He said the man was traced by police to his house and was immediately taken to Government Hospital, Ghagwal for the sample testing

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Woman Dies After Self-Immolation

SRINAGAR: A woman allegedly committed suicide by setting herself on fire in Telbal area of the city outskirts on Saturday. The woman was critically injured after she sprinkled kerosene on her body and set herself on fire in Telbal locality of the city, news agency KNT reported. She suffered grievous burn injuries and died in the hospital. Meanwhile, Police have taken cognizance of the case and set investigation into motion.

Man Falls From Moving Truck, Dies

SRINAGAR: A man on Saturday died after falling from a moving truck in Sanat Nagar area of the city outskirts. Mohammad Iqbal Kohli son of Abdul Rehman of Verinag Anantnag fell down from a running truck in Sanat Nagar area leading to his instant death. Meanwhile, police have registered a case and started further investigations.

Shawal Moon Sighted, Eid Today



SRINAGAR: Eid-al Fitr is being celebrated across Kashmir today as Shawal moon was sighted in the region.

Kashmir, like rest of the world will be celebrating the festival with solemnity due to continued lockdown.

No congregational Eid prayers will be offered and people have been advised to stay home in order to contain the spread of Covid-19 pandemic.

On the eve of Eid, the streets and markets in Srinagar and

other major towns lacked the hubbub of usual festivities.

Earlier an announcement from New Delhi said Eid will be celebrated in the country on May 25 as the moon could not be sighted on Saturday. The announcement

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HC Adopts Full Year Working Time Calendar

JAMMU: The High court of Jammu and Kashmir will continue same working time round the year, thus halting the past practice of change of timings in winter and summers, an official statement issued on Saturday said.

It said that Chief Justice has issued a calendar which will be followed for the rest part of the whole year.

For the High Court Jammu Wing, the Registry/office timing for the first session will be from 9.30 AM to 1.00PM and 2nd session from 2PM to 4.30 PM- with one hour lunch break, while the Court timing will be 10AM to 1PM first session and 2PM to 4PM

• P-02

Tension Mounts In Ladakh As China Brings In More Troops



Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Chinese military is fast increasing its troops in areas around Pangong Tso lake and Galwan Valley along the Line of Actual Control in Ladakh, sending a clear signal

that it was not ready to end its confrontation with the Indian Army anytime soon, people familiar with the situation in the disputed region said.

The Chinese side has particularly bolstered its presence in the Galwan Valley.

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High Court Seeks Report On Violence Against Journalists, Bankers

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Amid opposition by Ministry of Home Affairs to a Draft Bill to check violence against doctors and other health-care professionals, J&K High Court has sought a report from Government of India whether complaints have been received from any other category of professionals including media persons, bankers, advocates,

chartered accountants, etc. that they were suffering violence and seeking enactment of a separate legislation.

Hearing a batch of Public Interest Litigations including one on its own motion, a division bench of Chief Justice Gita Mittal and Justice Rajnesh Oswal sought the report after Assistant Solicitor General of India Vishal Sharma submitted that MHA does not support the draft Leg-

islation by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, titled "Health Service Personnel and Clinical Establishments (Prohibition of violence and damage to property) Act, 2019" to address the issue of assault on health care service personnel and clinical establishments.

Among the main reasons, he said, enacting a separate legislation for prohibiting violence against doctors and other

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THE STATE IS DUTY BOUND TO PROTECT LIFE AND property of all its citizens including professionals like media persons, doctors, engineers, advocates, bankers, etc."

Srinagar Airport To Receive 13 Flights Daily From Tomorrow

Flyers To Be Sent For 14 Day Quarantine After Arrival

Izhar Nazir Ali

SRINAGAR: The Srinagar International Airport will operate as many as 13 inbound and outbound flights from Monday, after a break of nearly two months since the pan-India lockdown imposed by Modi-government began on March 25.

In total, 13 flights of four major airline players will operate at the Srinagar International Airport from Monday, official sources told Kashmir Observer. Among the private airlines, Air Asia will have the first inbound and outbound flight at the Srinagar International Airport. The first t to land in Srinagar will be Air Asia's



flight I5712 at 7:25 morning. It will be also the first flight to depart to New Delhi from Srinagar at 7:55 am.

Another low carrier airline Spice Jet will operate four daily flights between Delhi-Srinagar, Delhi-Jammu and Srinagar-Jammu

sectors. The two direct flights to New Delhi will depart at 12:35 and 16:05 hours from Srinagar, while another via Jammu will take off at 11:50 morning. The direct flight to Jammu will also depart around 11:50 morning.

Indigo will operate three flights, all in the afternoon for New Delhi and Mumbai sectors. The first Indigo flight to New Delhi will depart from Srinagar airport at 2:50 and the second will take off for Mumbai at 3:00 pm. Indigo's flight

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ANOTHER LOW CARRIER AIRLINE SPICE JET WILL OPERATE FOUR daily flights between Delhi-Srinagar, Delhi-Jammu and Srinagar-Jammu sectors. The two direct flights to New Delhi will depart at 12:35 and 16:05 hours from Srinagar, while another via Jammu will take off at 11:50 morning. The direct flight to Jammu will also depart around 11:50 morning.

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR- A 55-year-old woman, who had tested positive for COVID-19, died at Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS) Soura on Saturday, taking the coronavirus death toll in Jammu and Kashmir to 21, officials said.

The woman from Urnhal area of south Kashmir died at tertiary care hospital today, said Dr Farooq Jan, Medical Superintendent, SKIMS Soura.

"The woman was admitted to the hospital's isolation facility and had underlying ailments including chest infection. She had tested positive

• P-02

Senior Health Officer, Expecting Mother Among 80 New Cases

Coronavirus cases crossed 1300 mark in Kashmir Valley on Saturday as 80 more people, including a senior health department officer and an expecting mother tested positive to the virus.

• P-02

6 New Covid-19 Cases In Ladakh

Days after Ladakh was declared coronavirus free, six fresh cases have come to light in the union territory over the past three days with almost all of them having a travel history outside the Himalayan region, officials said on Saturday.

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Pak Demands UN Discussion On Kashmir Situation

Press Trust Of India

ISLAMABAD- Pakistan Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi telephoned UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Friday to convey its concern over India's decision to change the domicile law for Jammu and Kashmir.

Under the domicile rules, all those persons and their children who have resided for 15 years in Jammu and Kashmir or have studied for seven years and appeared in class 10 or 12 examinations in an educational institution in the Union Territory are eligible for grant of domicile.

The Foreign Office said that Qureshi updated the UN chief on the situation in Kashmir.

The Foreign Minister alluded to the recent domicile law in Kashmir, which was in violation of relevant UN Security Council resolutions and international law, including the 4th Geneva Convention.

He also claimed that India may resort to some false flag operation.

The foreign minister said that Pakistan remained ready to allow the UNMOGIP to authenticate the claim over terror launch pads, if India provides any specific information. India maintains that the UN

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Police Arrests Woman 'Extortionist'

Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR: Police has claimed to have arrested a woman in south Kashmir's Kulgam district for allegedly extorting money from a man quizzed over an input over his militant connection.

Mehbooba, wife of Shafqat Kuchay of Kadder village was arrested after she extorted an amount of Rs 80,000 from a man identified as Nazir Ahmed of Tungdunoo, who was questioned by police in connection with a militancy related input, reports said.

While Ahmad was released after nothing surfaced against him, Mehbooba grabbed the

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Departed Son's Songs Paving Way To Mother's Dirges

Auqib Javed

SRINAGAR: He sang songs to his young heart's delight on the streets of Srinagar where he was lately given a tearful farewell. Among the mourners were his young friends with whom he would do lip-syncing and upload videos on social media sites.

In his last video that went viral on social media after his passage, Basim Aijaz, a class 7th student of Srinagar's Chota Bazar, talks about death: 'Kya Karoge Tum Aakhir, Kab'ar Par Meri Aakar... Thodi Der Ro Loge, Aur Bhool Jaogee' (You'll visit my grave, cry for a while, and then will forget me).

After this social media joy singer

went silent forever, his 40-year-old mother started singing dirges for him: 'Oh, my son! How did you vanish into thin air? Why I'm living without you! What pushed you to death? Didn't you think once about your mummy for once?'

Kousar Jan's voice has turned hoarse with relentless crying for her son, who had gone out for an evening walk, soon after the raging gunfight—killing Hizbul Mujahideen commander, Junaid Sehrai and his associate—had ended.

The massive "collateral damage", the charred corpus of 15 residential houses, soon drew massive crowd to Kani Mazar locality of Nawa Kadal.

"He called me and said he was



going out with his friends," the wailing mother told Kashmir Observer. "I pleaded him to come back, as the situation was not good. But he assured me that he would be back soon. He never returned."

Kousar shortly received another call, this time from her relative, saying: 'Basim got injured at Nawa Kadal'.

Hearing this, the wailing mother rushed to the SMHS hospital,

along with her kin.

Her son, along with four others, reportedly got injured when a house collapsed suddenly in the evening of May 19, hours after the last gun fell silent at Nawa Kadal.

Basim had suffered more than 90 per cent burn injuries, Dr. Nazir Choudhary, Medical Superintendent, SMHS, told Kashmir Observer.

Numb with pain, the son was looking for his mother in the hospital bed.

"As I entered into the ward, he told me, 'Mumma, Mae Che Bouth Theek' (Mom, is my face alright)? I couldn't tell him, 'Son, your angelic face is badly burned,' she cried saying this.

For the entire night, »PAGE 02

Muslims Perform Last Rites Of Pandit Neighbour

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: In another example of communal harmony and brotherhood, the Muslim neighbors in south Kashmir's Tral Township on Saturday helped perform the last rites of an elderly Kashmiri Pandit who passed away this morning.

95-year-old Jagar Nath Bhat breathed his last in his home in Buechoo of Tral in the wee hours today plunging the small village in mourning, eyewitnesses told Kashmir Observer. After the news spread in the village, the local Muslims visited the family and expressed condolences with them. Many youth, the reports said made arrangements in performing his last rites. They also ferried wood for helping the family to cre-



mate the deceased.

A former auditor of Cooperative department, Bhat and his family, including three daughters and a son stayed back when other community members left Kashmir after the outbreak of militancy in Kashmir in early 90's. He has left behind his lone son Moti Lal, a retired government teachers and three daughters, who are all settled. Last year, »PAGE 02