

KASHMIR OBSERVER

Tuesday 06 April | 22 Shaban | 1442 Hijri | Vol:24 | Issue: 80 | Pages:12 | Price: ₹3

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P3 CITY

SRINAGAR ADMIN WARNS PASSENGERS, DRIVERS AS COVID SOPS GO FOR A TOSS

Public transport in Srinagar and elsewhere in Kashmir is posing a serious threat to passengers as Covid-Sops are going for a toss forcing the authorities to issue a...

THINK

WHY NATIONALISM IS A THREAT TO MULTILATERALISM

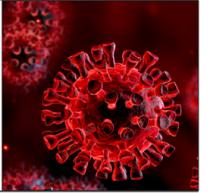
Loving your country is considered a virtue, and for a patriot, love for the country should not have any limit. Blind love has its own pitfalls, and there is no convincing argument except emotional ones to justify that...



P5 STATE

COVID-19 SPREADING AGGRESSIVELY AS PEOPLE TURN COMPLACENT: DAK

Doctors Association Kashmir (DAK) Monday said hospitals in Kashmir are witnessing a surge in severe cases of Covid-19 infection. "A few weeks ago..."



Widom Quote!

The past has no power over the present moment
—Eckhart Tolle

NEWS DIGEST

Explosives Seized In Kupwara: Army

SRINAGAR: Army on Monday claimed to have seized 15 sticks of plastic explosives in Kupwara district of Jammu and Kashmir, averting a tragedy. On receiving information that explosives might be exchanged near Jama Masjid of Tangdhar, a search was initiated by the Army bomb disposal team which led to seizure of explosives supposedly being transhipped to the hinterland, an Army spokesperson said. "In a major success to security forces" **More On P10**

SSB Man Falls From Building, Dies

SRINAGAR: A Sashstra Seema Bal (SSB) trooper died on Monday after falling from a building in Dignibal area of Ganderbal district. Jitendra Kumar of SSB 13 Battalion SSB was critically injured when he fell down from the fifth floor of a building in Dignibal area on Monday, an official said. The injured paramilitary man was removed by his colleagues to **More On P10**

IED Recovered, Defused In Khanyar

SRINAGAR: An Improvised Explosive Device (IED) was on Monday recovered and defused by police in Khanyar area of Srinagar City, officials said. A top official said that a suspicious steel box fitted with a wire was found in Khanyar locality on Monday evening. "An IED was found in the steel box, which was defused later," he said. Notably, the traffic was stopped in the area, soon after the box was found on the road. Officials said that after **More On P10**

Militant Associate Held In Sopore: Police

SRINAGAR: Police on Monday claimed to have arrested a militant associate of The Resistance Front (TRF) from Sopore town of Baramulla district. Ishaan-ul-Haq Khanday of Faisalabad Sopore was arrested by a joint team of police, army's 22 RR and CRPF 179 at a check point at Model Town crossing, Sopore, a police spokesperson said Monday. The check point, he said was established on the basis of specific information. **More On P10**

Grenade Found Along LoC In Poonch

SRINAGAR: An old grenade was recovered by army and police at Chapriyan Sawjian near Line of Control (LoC) in Poonch, officials said on Monday. They said the device is being destroyed by a bomb disposal squad. SSP Poonch Dr Vinod Kumar confirmed to local news agency GNS the recovery of the grenade. SHO Bashir Kohli said a case has been registered in this regard.

PAGE 1 ANCHOR

'We Wake Up To See Our Courtyards Gone': Kashmir's Puzzling Homelessness

Malik Nisar

SHRIPORA (BARAMULLA): Sitting on the edge of his crumbled courtyard, Ashraf is looking at the troubled terrain dotted with decimated dwellings. The crushed scene reminds one of a war movie, where an outsider steps in a lane filled with the bombarded houses and devastated landscape.

But there's no war going on in Shripora village of Baramulla.



And yet, "we often wake up to see our courtyards gone," says

Ashraf, a post-graduate student working as a plumber.

"Since the land is crumbling in the middle of the night, it

has impacted us socially, economically, mentally."

Broken houses, torn sheds and ruined gardens only make this uplifting hamlet a shelled village of Line of Control. But even as the far northern zone has thawed with the fresh Indo-Pak 'peace pact', the land beneath the villagers' feet is relentlessly slipping in Shripora.

And this very fact is creating an existential crisis for the distressed country dwellers.

I met Ashraf on a sunny spring day after trekking miles uphill. The sun beats down on rundown rooftops, as I walk through the gravel roads of the hilly hamlet. Children play hide and seek behind wrecked walls. Men and women collect bricks of their broken houses. Some elders nap near their wastelands.

"Landslides have caused mayhem here," Ashraf continues in his glum voice.

Health Dept Gears Up To Battle Coronavirus

Leaves Of Doctors, Medical Staff Cancelled

Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR: Amid surge in covid-19 cases, Director Health Services Kashmir has cancelled leaves granted or under consideration to doctors, nurses, paramedical staff and other officials, except maternity or that taken in view of extreme medical exigencies. "It is enjoined upon all the Chief Medical Officers/Medical Superintendents and other Territorial Offices falling within the jurisdiction of this Directorate that amid upsurge of the covid-19

pandemic, all the leaves either sanctioned or under consideration at Directorate level or at respective offices of CMOs and other DDOs in respect of doctors, nurses, paramedical staff and other official of this Department are here by cancelled forthwith except Maternity Leave and Leave taken in view of extreme medical exigencies," reads a circular issued by the DSK Dr. Mushtaq Ahmad Rather.

"Besides, all the Chief Medical Officers/Medical Superintendents and other **More On P10**

Ex-GOC 15 Corps Bats For Indo, Pak Talks



Agencies

SRINAGAR: Former Army General and senior defense expert Syed Ata Hasnain on Monday said that dialogue was the only way out between the two neighbouring nations for creation of a conducive and peaceful atmosphere for the people. Speaking to reporters on the sidelines of an event, **More On P10**

Fresh Snowfall In Gulmarg

3 Day Rain Spell Begins in Kashmir Valley

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The higher reaches of Kashmir Valley including Gulmarg received light snowfall while rains lashed plains, officials said on Monday.

The weatherman has already issued an advisory for moderate to heavy rains or snowfall in the Valley for three days with main activity on Tuesday and Wednesday.

A meteorological department official said that Srinagar received 1.1mm of rainfall in the last 24 hours till 08:30 a.m. He said that the mercury settled at 7.2 degree Celsius, the same as recorded on the previous night which is above 0.8 degree Celsius normal for this time of the year in the summer capital of J&K.

Qazigund received 0.6mm of rain during the time and it recorded **More On P10**

89 Travellers Among 442 Covid-19 Cases

Observer Monitoring Desk
At least 89 travellers were among 442 new cases of coronavirus reported in Jammu and Kashmir on Monday, while the deadly infection also claimed two more lives, taking the total **More On P10**

Gujarati Tourist Dies Of Covid-19

A 60-year-old tourist from Gujarat died due to Covid-19 at a hospital here, officials said on Monday. They said that the tourist was admitted on 2nd April at CD Hospital after testing positive. While he **More On P10**

Two Budgam Woman Held Over Nowgam Attack

Agencies

SRINAGAR: At least two young women have been arrested by police from central Kashmir's Budgam district in connection with last week's attack on the house of a Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader in Nowgam area of this capital city that left a policeman dead.

22-year-old Tabasum Maqbool and 23-year-old Anjum Younis, both residents of Kanihama in Budgam were arrested by police in connection with a case FIR number 27/2021 under sections 307, 302, 392 of IPC and 7/27 of Arms Act, registered at the police station Nowgam in connection **More On P10**

NO RATION WITHOUT VACCINATION

Bandipora Authorities Faces Flak, Withdraw Controversial Order

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: Authorities in the Bandipora district of Jammu and Kashmir withdrew within hours a controversial order making it mandatory for persons above 45 to get themselves vaccinated against COVID-19 to collect their government ration. An order issued by the Assistant Director, Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Bandipora, earlier in the day had asked consumers above 45 to get themselves vaccinated against COVID-19 or forego their ration.

"Please remember that without producing covid-19 vaccination certificate, ration will not be issued in any case," the order said. However, it was withdrawn within hours.

"The public notice...wherein it was inadvertently made mandatory for persons aged 45 and above to vaccinate themselves against COVID-19 for the collection of ration, is hereby withdrawn ab initio," the assistant **More On P10**



HC Takes Note Of Dal Lake Degradation

Disbands All Panels, Asks LAWDA To Stop Drains Flowing Into Water Body

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir High Court has directed Vice Chairman LAWDA to draw a complete scheme for the management and the development of the Dal Lake as well as the area around it even as it disbanded various committees formed previously.

Hearing a Public Interest Litigation, a division bench of Chief Justice Pankaj Mithal and Justice Vinod Chatterji Koul also directed the Vice Chairman to survey



and prepare a list of all the drains that are flowing into the Lake and take immediate steps to stop it. "Notwithstanding the submissions made by the respective parties, we find

that the various Committees which have been formed earlier are not of much use in the present and that when a development authority (LAWDA) has especially been **More On P10**

Seized Vehicles To Be Released Against Rs 50K Fine

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir High Court has ordered that vehicles seized for carrying illegal construction material along Dal Lake or its adjoining areas shall be released against Rs 50000 fine in the first instance and Rs one lakh for repeating the offence. If the offence is repeated third time, the vehicle shall not be released until completion of trial. **More On P10**

FREE 24X7

CRITICAL CARE AMBULANCE SERVICE IN SRINAGAR

FOR ASSISTANCE CALL

9484-100-200; 0194-240-4000

Kashmiri American Society of Healthcare, Medical Education and Research (KASHMER)