KASHMR OBSERVER 24 Jean of Publication OBSERVER

Wednesday 21 April | 08 Ramazan | 1442 Hijri | Vol:24 | Issue: 93 | Pages:12 | Price: ₹3

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P3 CITY **SDA'S SANGARMAL SHOPPING COMPLEX RUNNING INTO LOSSES**

No business and establishment at Sangarmal shopping complex in Srinagar has a lease agreement—contrary to it the space holders owe a whopping amount of more.



LOSE THE VIRUS, KEEP THE MASK

I grew up in South Korea, where maskwearing was an accepted norm. Individuals would don face coverings for a myriad of reasons: when they were feeling sick; when they didn't have enough time to put on makeup; when the air was so cold it ..



P5 STATE

SAME COVID STRAIN IN KASHMIR AS EXISTED LAST YEAR: DIRECTOR SKIMS

Director Sher-e-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS) Soura Dr. A G Ahanger Tuesday said that Covid samples from Kashmir are being sent to New Delhi and.



C Quote

You can never plan the future by the past. —Edmund Burke

Iftar Sehri HANAFIYA 07:16 04:22 **JAFARIYA**

NEWS DIGEST

LG Greets People On Ram Navami

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday extended his warm greetings to the people on the eve of Ram Navami. In his message, the Lt Governor observed that "Lord Ram, the seventh incarnation of Lord Vishnu is an embodiment of compassion, dutifulness, tolerance, Justice, and great virtues". People, especially the youth, must • More On P10

Labourer Dies After Quarry Accident

SRINAGAR: A middle-aged labourer on Tuesday died after an accident at a stone quarry in Bandipora district of north Kashmir. 58-year-old Abdul Rashid Rather sustained critical injuries after falling of a stone-quarry in Bandipora district on Tuesday afternoon, reports said. He was removed to the Srinagar's SMHS hospital for treatment. • More On P10

20 Coaching Centres Sealed In Kupwara

SRINAGAR: Authorities sealed at least twenty coaching centres in north Kashmir's Kupwara district for violating Covid-19 guidelines amid a rampant surge in positive cases. An official said that the coaching centres were sealed by a team led by Naib-Tehsildar Sogam on the directions passed by SDM Lolab Aijaz Ahmad. "The closed down institutes were found in More On P10

Eight Arrested For Cattle Smuggling

JAMMU: Eight suspected cattle smugglers were arrested and 94 bovines rescued as police foiled a smuggling hid in the outskirts Jammu on Tuesday, officials said. A police team intercepted eight trucks headed for Kashmir on the highway near the Ban toll plaza and rescued the animals during a search of the vehicles, they said. Those arrested were More On P10

CORONAVIRUS CRISIS

Centre Rules Out Nationwide LOCKOOWN FOR NOW PM Calls For Combined Efforts To Combat Second Wave

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The country is again faced with a big battle against COVID-19 and conditions will improve with the decisions taken in recent days, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Tuesday and stressed that lockdown should be the last option.

In his address to the nation, Modi said the people were undergoing suffering but "we need to fight it out with all our might" and expressed confidence that the coronavirus will be defeated with the combined efforts of the people.

"I want to thank our doctors and all our healthcare workers



for working non-stop in this fight against COVID-19 pandemic," he said.

Modi noted that pharma sector was working relentlessly to meet all COVID-19 challenges,

including on vaccine development and supply.

The prime minister said that the shortage of oxygen cylinders has come across as a major problem • More On P10

Corona Surge Cause Of Concern: Pole



Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: The sudden spike in coronavirus cases in Kashmir is a cause of concern but the situation does not warrant imposition of a lockdown yet, a senior official said on Tuesday. Divisional Kashmir, • More On P10

Next 3 Weeks Crucial In Corona Fight: Gol

NEW DELHI: The Centre on Tuesday advised union territories to ramp up testing for COVID-19 and augment laboratory and hospital infrastructure to prepare for the next three weeks keeping in view the critical situation.

These were conveyed to top officials of the union territories at a review meeting Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla and More On P10

J&K Logs Highest Single-Day Spike Of 2,030 Cases

8 More Deaths Push Fatality Count To 2071

KO Web Desk

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir recorded its highest single-day spike of 2,030 COVID-19 cases on Tuesday, which includes 352 travellers, taking the infection tally in the union territory past 1.50 lakh, officials said here.

They said eight more fatalities were registered in a span of 24 hours, pushing the death toll to 2,071.

Of the fresh cases, 944 are from Jammu division and 1,086 from Kashmir division, the officials said, adding that the union territory's total caseload now stands at 1,50,238.

They said Srinagar district recorded the highest number of 647 new cases, including 58 travellers, followed by 501 in Jammu district and 143 in Reasi.

The number of active cases of the disease More On P10

Night Curfew Extended **Across J&K**

ne Jammu and Kashmir administration on Tuesday extended the ongoing night curfew to all municipal and urban local body limits in view of the spike in COVID-19 cases. The order ● More On P10

J&K Has Adequate Oxygen Available: Govt

sserting that the entire government machinery was all set to combat the serious challenge caused by second wave of Covid-19 pandemic, the Jammu and Kashmir administration said on Tuesday that adequate buffer stock of oxygen cylinders was available and not a single patient shall die for want of oxygen in the Union Territory. The assurances about • More On P10

World Press Freedom Index

India Ranks Low At 142

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: India has ranked 142nd out of 180 countries on a global press freedom index in the annual Reporters Without Borders analysis released on Tuesday.

A report by Reporters Without Borders says there has been a dramatic deterioration of press freedom since the onset of the pandemic. The report said that countries have used the pandemic to limit journalist's access to information, sources and reporting in the field.

There has been a particular increase in these incidents in Asian, Middle East and European nations. India, ranked 142 of the 180 polled nations, remains one of the most dangerous nations for journalists. Nepal is ranked at 106, Sri Lanka at 127, Pakistan at 145 and Bangladesh at 152. Overall, in 2021, just 7 per cent, of the index's 180 countries offered a favourable environment for journalism.

The tops ranking countries include Finland at 2, Sweden at 3, Denmark at 4, the Netherlands at 6, Portugal at 9, Belgium at 11, Ireland at 12 and Germany at 13.

In India, the report reads, critical journalists are labelled 'anti-state or 'anti-national' by BJP supporters. In 2020, four journalists were killed in connection with their work. Journalists in India have also been subjected to physical attacks by BJP activists, often with the complicity of the police.

Adding to the • More On P10

Pak Returns Kashmiri Teen To Authorities

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: Pakistan Army on Tuesday handed over to the Indian authorities an 18-year-old youth who had inadvertently crossed the Line of Control into Pakistancontrolled Kashmir (PcK) last year.

Mohammad Sayeed Mohiuddin was handed over to the Indian authorities at Titwal crossing point in Tangdhar sector along the LoC, a defence spokesman said

"Inadvertent crossings across the Line of Control by locals on either sides of it have been an occurrence due to rugged terrain. In one such crossing...Mohammad Saveed Mohinuddin belonging to Gurez in forward areas of Bandipora crossed into forward areas of Pakistan controlled Kashmir in September last year," the spokesman said.

He said the proactive coordination by the Indian authorities has enabled repatriation of the vouth.

The spokesman said interactions with the locals of Titwal revealed that there has been a marked decrease in the inadvertent crossings over a period of time due to strict vigil along the Line of Control.

Another Wet Spell In J&K from Today

SRINAGAR: Mercury plunged by a few notches in Kashmir valley ahead of the weather department's forecast of more rains in plains and fresh snowfall on higher reaches, including the famous skiing resort of Gulmarg.

"Scattered to widespread rain/thunderstorm and snowfall over higher reaches like Gulmarg, Zojila, and on higher reaches of Leh-Manali Highway is likely during April 21-22. Thereafter, mainly dry weather is expected till ending April," Director Meteorological Department, Sonam Lotus said.

Meanwhile, a meteorological department official said that Srinagar recorded a low of 7.2 degree Celsius against 7.6 degree Celsius on the previous



night. It was 0.7 degree Celsius below normal in the summer capital of J&K

Qazigund, the gateway town of Kashmir, saw a low of 4.9°C

against previous night's 7.4°C.

the official said.

Pahalgam recorded a low of 1.4 degree Celsius same as on the previous night which was 2 degree Celsius below normal, he said. The • More On P10

LANDSLIDE BLOCKS HIGHWAY

he traffic on 270-km Srinagar-Jammu highway on Tuesday was suspended after a landslide hit the vital road link in Ramban District. The landslide occurred near Cafeteria Morh in Ramban on Tuesday morning prompting the officials to suspend traffic movement on the highway, reports said. The Beacon authorities, reports said, pressed into service its men and machinery to clear the highway from debris and make it motorable for traffic. The closure of the highway, • More On P10

76% Students Qualify Class 11th Exams



SRINAGAR: As many as 76 percent students passed annual examinations of 11th standard in Kashmir division, the results of which were announced on Tuesday by the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education (BOSE) on Tuesday.

According to the reports, girl students outshined boys and registered a pass percentage of 79 compared to 74 percent secured by boys. BOSE also said that a total of 75,652 students were enrolled for the exams out of which 57,658 qualified it.

According to BOSE, at least 25,701 students bagged the distinction in the annual regular exams of 11th standard, • More On P10



Meet Zarka, 'Made in Kashmir' Detergent's Brandmaker

his former teacher still carries her classroom coach characteristics when she arrives in her factory—which braved successive lockdowns-to produce local detergent brand in

the market. A mother of children, ZarkaTanzeel, 29, is only living up to her 'empowered

woman' image, with which she wants to inspire her 'browbeaten tribe'. "I always wanted to lead by

an example," Zarka says in her workstation in central Budgam "And as a job

creator in the

field previously

thought as chal-

lenging for wom-

en, I want to help

port in life. An employer

my type to become their own dozen workforce including two

women, Zarka is believed to be the first woman who introduced Kashmir's own detergent powder in the local market filled to the brim with

non-local brands. In Budgam, her detergent factory produces a native brand called "KMR Sheen" detergent powder.

Before starting her own venture, Zarka had to pass through her own share of struggles in life. A native of Srinagar's Bemina area, Zarka pursued her dream rigorously after her wedding. In 2017, this former pri

