



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....

P7 THINK

## LOSE THE VIRUS, KEEP THE MASK

I grew up in South Korea, where mask-wearing 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...



You can never plan the future by the past.

—Edmund Burke

8<sup>TH</sup> RAMAZAN

	Iftar TODAY	Sehri TOMMOROW
FIQAH HANAFIYA	07:10	04:24
FIQAH JAFARIYA	07:16	04:22



## 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 from 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 bid 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 Lockdown 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



KO Photo: Abid Bhat

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 Commissioner, Kashmir, ● [More On P10](#)

## Next 3 Weeks Crucial In Corona Fight: GoI

**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 by Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla and ● [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 Pakistan-controlled 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 here.

"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 Sayeed Mohiuddin 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 youth.

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&amp;K from Today

Observer Monitoring Desk

**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



File Photo: Abid Bhat

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

**T**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



Agencies

**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

Augib Javed

**T**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 two children, Zarka Tanzeel, 29, is only living up to her 'empowered

woman' image, with which she wants to inspire her 'brown-beaten tribe'.

"I always wanted to lead by an example," Zarka says in her workstation in central Kashmir's Budgam district.

"And as a job creator in the field previously thought as challenging for women, I want to help

my type to become their own support in life."

An employer of a 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 private ● [More On P10](#)

