

KASHMIR OBSERVER

Saturday 24 April | 11 Ramadan | 1442 Hijri | Vol:24 | Issue: 96 | Pages:08 | Price: ₹3

www.kashmiroobserver.net • twitter.com / kashmiroobserver • facebook.com/kashmiroobserver • Postal Regn: L/159/KO/SK/2014-2016



P3 CITY
SIX MORE SRINAGAR LOCALITIES DECLARED MICRO CONTAINMENT ZONES

Authorities on Friday declared six more areas of Srinagar city as micro containment zones. The areas include Batamalo, Khanyar, Zadibal and SR Gunj Srinagar to prevent the spread of coronavirus...

P5 THINK
THE CORONAVIRUS: A MUSLIM'S PERSPECTIVE

This current pandemic and global crisis brought about by the novel Coronavirus strain has been a source of panic and worry for many, but it is also an opportunity for great reflection. There are important...



P7 STATE
DIV COM CALLS FOR STRICT MASK ENFORCEMENT, FINE ON SOP VIOLATORS

The Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Pandurang K Pole Friday called for strict mask enforcement through volunteers in Kashmir to contain the spread...



Quote!
Those who know little, speak the most.
—Imam Ali

11TH RAMAZAN

	Iftar TODAY	Sehri TOMMOROW
FIQAH HANAFIYA	07:13	04:20
FIQAH JAFARIYA	07:19	04:18



Devout Muslims bow before the Almighty on 2nd Friday of the holy month of fasting at a mosque on the Bund Srinagar.

Dry, Warmer Weather Till May 3 In J&K: MeT

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The weatherman on Friday said that dry and warmer weather was expected from April 24 to May 3 even as plains in Kashmir Valley received more rains while upper reaches including the world famous skiing resort of Gulmarg received fresh snowfall.

A meteorological department official told GNS that Srinagar received 37.4mm of rain in the last 24 hours till 0830 a.m. today while it recorded a low of 4.6°C against 8.6°C on the previous night. The temperature was 4.3°C

below normal in the summer capital of J&K for this time of the season, he said.

Qazigund, the gateway town of Kashmir, received 15.4mm of rain during the time and recorded a low of 3.6°C against previous night's 4.6°C, the official said.

Pahalgam, the famous resort in south Kashmir, received 21.4mm of rain and recorded a low of 0.8°C against 3.3°C on the previous night, he said.

Kokernag, also in south Kashmir, received 13.3mm of rain during the time and recorded a low of 1.8°C against previous night's 3.7°C, the official said.

Kupwara had 11.0 mm of rain and recorded a low of 3.7°C against **More On P6**

NEWS DIGEST

2 IEDs Detected In South Kashmir

SRINAGAR: Army and police detected and destroyed two improvised explosive device (IEDs) in Pulwama and Shopian district of south Kashmir on Friday, officials said. They said that the first IED was detected at Circle Road in Pulwama district and was later destroyed by a Bomb Disposal Squad without any damage. "The IED, weighing about 3-4 kgs, was covered in **More On P6**

Man Held with 10 Grenades in Kupwara

KUPWARA: Combined Forces arrested a man with 10 hand grenades and a pistol in North Kashmir's Kupwara district. The man who is believed to be an over ground worker of militants was apprehended by Forces including soldiers from 28 Rashtriya Rifles, Special Operation Group Sogam and CRPF personnel during a naka at **More On P6**

59 Women Help Desks In Police Stations

SRINAGAR: Police on Friday said it has established 59 women help desks in police stations across Kashmir in order to make them more friendly and accessible to women. These women help desks will be the first and single point of contact for any woman walking into a police station, a police spokesman said. He said the in-charges at these help desks are women **More On P6**

Wife Of Jailed Hurriyat Leader Passes Away

SRINAGAR: The ailing wife of incarcerated Hurriyat Conference (G) leader and spokesman Ayaz Akbar passed away at her Maloora HMT residence in Srinagar city. Family sources said that Rafeeq Begum, the wife of Ayaz Akbar, who was suffering from cancer from past couple of years, passed away from the intervening night of Thursday-Friday. Ayaz Akbar was **More On P6**

19 More Succumb to COVID-19, 1,937 Test Positive

Tally Reaches 156,344; Death Toll Reaches 2,111, Active Cases Increase To 16,993, Recovery Rate Decreases To 87.78



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The COVID-19 cases in Jammu and Kashmir continue to show a steep rise as 1,937 fresh positive cases were reported on Friday, pushing the

number of active cases to 16,993 which otherwise were less than 600 around a month before.

19 more deaths were reported in J&K in the last 24 hours, taking the death toll to 2,111 and active **More On P6**

J&K Tightens Covid Control Measures

- Plans the roll out of vaccination for an additional 65 lakh people in 18-45 age group
- 36 oxygen generation plants to come up in J&K

Observer News Service

JAMMU: The Chief Secretary, B V R Subrahmanyam while chairing a high-level meeting to review the public health response to

COVID-19 asked the administration to remain alert and tighten the implementation of existing control measures and SOPs to reverse the upward trend.

Considering the recent surge in the COVID infections, the Chief Secretary impressed upon the officers to strictly implement the strategy of testing, vaccination, strict control in containment zones and promotion of COVID appropriate behaviour among masses to prevent a further surge in the cases. **More On P6**

Div Com Calls For Strict Mask Enforcement Through Volunteers

The Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Pandurang K Pole Friday called for strict mask enforcement through volunteers in Kashmir to contain the spread of Covid-19. The Div Com made these remarks while chairing a Covid-19 review meeting here. He directed concerned teams of NSS, NCC, NYC, SDRF and other volunteers to carry out rigorous Covid-19 SOPs awareness and mask enforcement **More On P6**

Panel Formed For Integrated Development of Logistic Sector

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor-led dispensation Friday granted sanction to the constitution of a Logistic Coordination Committee, aimed for integrated development of the logistic sector, in Jammu and Kashmir. According to **More On P6**

MATTU WRITES TO LG SINHA

Mayor Seeks Closure of Tourist Places, Ban on Group Prayers

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Mayor Srinagar Municipal Corporation Junaid Azim Mattu has urged Lt Governor to close of all tourists gardens and disallow all congregational prayers and religious gatherings in Srinagar

to contain the continuing Covid-19 surge.

In a letter to Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, shared by him on his tweeter handle, the Mayor underscored that the second COVID-19 wave mounts an unprecedented challenge and **More On P6**

Panel Formed For Integrated Development of Logistic Sector

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor-led dispensation Friday granted sanction to the constitution of a Logistic Coordination Committee, aimed for integrated development of the logistic sector, in Jammu and Kashmir.

According to the Government Order No: 361-JK (GAD) of 2021 dated: 23.04.2021 in this regard, Principal Secretary to the Government, Industries and Commerce Department will act as Chairman with Principal Secretary to the Government, Agriculture **More On P6**

One-Way Traffic On Highway On Saturday Agenceis

SRINAGAR: Traffic authorities on Friday said that one way traffic shall be allowed on Jammu-Srinagar highway on Saturday.

"Tomorrow (April 24), subject to fair weather and better road condition, LMVs (passenger) shall be allowed from Srinagar towards Jammu on Jammu-Srinagar highway. TCU Srinagar shall liaise with TCU Ramban before releasing the traffic" reads a traffic department communique.

"Commuters are advised not to travel on the highway without confirming the status of road from TCU Jammu/ Ramban/Srinagar in view of inclement weather on highway," it said.

4 Extortionists, Posing as Militants, Nabbed In Sopore

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir Police on Friday claimed to have arrested four extortionists in north Kashmir's Sopore township.

In a statement, the police said that a complainant namely Muhammad Ashraf Lone son of Noor Muhammad Lone resident of Highland colony Sopore approached police station sopore and lodged a written complaint to the effect that few days back some unidentified persons wearing masks entered his clinic and threatened him that a hit warrant has been issued against him by Laskar/Jaish-e-Muhammad and if he cannot pay Rupees 5 lakh he will be eliminated. The statement **More On P6**

Bone Therapy of Hazratbal Hakeems Bracing in Pandemic

Saima Shakeel

Fearing hospital during the second wave of Covid in Kashmir, a young boy has arrived in busy Hazratbal market with his sore shoulder.

It's Friday and the famous Dargah bazar—filled with the smell of spices and tandoor smoke—is bustling with the masked faithful thronging the sanctum for the condensed congregational prayers.

With painful facial expression, the boy holds his shoulder carefully and approaches an old therapist sitting on a shut-shop front.

Mohammad Ramzan Bangi asks the boy—who can't move his arm due to an accident—to sit down.

The therapist starts rubbing



the boy's tender shoulder in an effort to fix his dislocated bone. After putting some white tape around his shoulder, he bids

adieu to the young patient with a big smile. The relieved boy takes out some cash from his wallet and hands it over to the

therapist with gratitude. "Most of these patients are afraid to visit hospitals due to this 'woebah' [pandemic] these



days," Ramzan says in his clam voice. "I try my best to give them right treatment. Rest Allah is the real healer."

WITH COVID SPIKE ONCE AGAIN casting shadow on Kashmir hospitals this Ramadan, the vale's traditional therapists adept at fixing bones are only becoming alternate healers for the distressed community.

The 85-year-old street therapist, called 'Baieng' in Kashmiri, eagerly arrives on his weekly Friday visits to the old Hazratbal market. The elder sits under the basement of an old building and awaits his patients.

"Everyone wants to play safe these days," says Abdul Rehman, who's into this traditional treatment from last 35 years.

"Since our health centers are mainly dealing with this [Covid] health emergency right now, so many [non-Covid] patients resort to the safer and simpler means of healing."

The street **More On P6**