



P5 STATE

KASHMIR FACES SHORTAGE OF COVID VACCINE

A day after leading hospitals of Kashmir were facing shortage of Remdesivir, several health centres in Kashmir division mainly in Srinagar have run dry of Covid-19 vaccines. A top health official who wished not to be named said that several health centres in Srinagar...

P6 THINK

A PEOPLE-CENTRIC RESPONSE

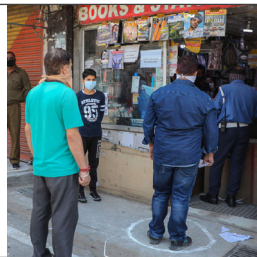
A runaway surge in coronavirus cases threatens to plunge Jammu and Kashmir into the same chaos as is unfolding in Delhi and the other parts of the country. At over 3000 cases a day, we have more than half the number of Pakistan, a country with...



P3 CITY

STANDALONE SHOPS TO BE ALLOWED DURING LOCKDOWN: DC SRINAGAR

Administration in Srinagar on Thursday said that wholesale dealers, standalone grocery, vegetable, meat and milk shops may remain open during the 84 lockdown...



Widom! Quote!

Have you seen the one who denies the Recompense? For that is the one who drives away the orphan. And does not encourage the feeding of the poor.

—Quran 107: 1-3

17TH RAMAZAN

| | Iftar TODAY | Sehri TOMMOROW |
|----------------|-------------|----------------|
| FIQAH HANAFIYA | 07:14 | 04:13 |
| FIQAH JAFARIYA | 07:22 | 04:09 |



NEWS DIGEST

Shab-e-Qadr Holiday On May 10

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir government on Thursday announced that the holiday on account of Shab-e-Qadr shall now be observed on May 10 instead of May 9. "In partial modification of Order No. 1159-JK (GAD) of 2020 dated 24.12.2020 and No. 1160-JK (GAD) of 2020 dated 24.12.2020, it is hereby ordered that the holiday" **More On P10**

Cash Box Stolen From Masjid

SRINAGAR: Unidentified burglars stole a donation box from a mosque in south Kashmir's Shopian district, reports said Thursday. According to news agency KNT the incident occurred after the 'Taraweeh' prayers at Markazi Jamia Masjid Shopian. Quoting local sources, the report said that there was **More On P10**

Police Foil Exfiltration Bid, 3 Held

SRINAGAR: Police on Thursday claimed to have foiled an exfiltration bid by arresting three people who were on their way to cross Line of Control (LoC) in Uri area of Baramulla district. In a statement issued here, a police spokesperson said that three youth Majid Rakeeb Konshi of Handwara, **More On P10**

J&K Sees Biggest Single Day Spike

26 Die, 3474 More Test Corona Positive



File Photo: Abid Bhat

Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR: Coronavirus cases continue to show a rapid surge in Jammu and Kashmir as 3474 more people tested positive for Covid-19 on Thursday, the biggest single day spike this year, while 26 more people succumbed to the infection across the Union Territory during the last 24 hours.

Among the victims, officials said, seventeen belonged to different parts of Jammu division

while nine hailed from various districts of the Valley. Among others, they said, the victims included three women aged between 50-65 from Kulgam district in south Kashmir, a 75-year-old woman from Anantnag and a 68-year-old man from Batmaloo here.

With these deaths, the fatality count since the outbreak of pandemic last year has reached 2253 in J&K. According to the officials, 2134 new cases of coronavirus were detected in Kashmir Valley while **More On P10**

Govt Equipped To Deal With Situation: LG



Observer News Service

JAMMU: Urging people of Jammu and Kashmir not to panic, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said Thursday that his administration was

fully equipped to deal with the emerging coronavirus situation in the Union Territory.

Chairing a meeting with the office-bearers and volunteers of Indian Red Cross Society, J&K **More On P10**

No Shortage Of Oxygen, Vaccines In J&K: Advisor **P5**

HC Quashes RTO Kashmir's Circular

Leaves It Open For Authorities To Check Validity Of Outside Vehicles

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir High Court on Thursday quashed RTO Kashmir's March 27 circular, mandating the owners who have purchased their vehicles bearing outside registration number to apply for a new registration within 15 days.

A division bench of Justices Ali Mohammad Magrey and Vinod Chatterji Koul also asked authorities to comply with Section 47 of the Act and Rule 54 of Central

Motor Vehicles for assignment of new registration mark of the vehicles.

However, notwithstanding these directions, the Division Bench left it open for the authorities to "screen, scrutinize, verify" validity and genuineness of documents of any vehicle entering J&K having outside registration.

The Section 47 of the Motor Vehicle Act 1988 deals with assignment of the new registration mark on removal of the vehicle to another State or UT in India. It provides that when a motor vehicle registered **More On P10**

Centre Mulling New Re-Registration Norms

The road transport ministry has proposed new draft rules that will make it much easier for defence personnel, government employees and others shifting from one state to another to re-register their vehicles. In a statement, the ministry said it is proposing a new system of vehicle registration, wherein allocation **More On P10**

Vaccinated Elderly 94% Less Likely To Be Hospitalised With Covid

Agencies

WASHINGTON: The Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines being deployed to fight the coronavirus pandemic are highly effective in preventing hospitalizations among older adults, the group most at risk for severe disease and death, according to a federal study released Wednesday.

While not surprising, the results are reassuring because they provide the first real-world evidence in the United States that both vaccines prevent severe covid-19 illness, as they did in clinical trials,

the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said.

In the study, fully vaccinated adults 65 and older were 94% less likely to be hospitalized with covid-19 than people of the same age who were not vaccinated, according to the CDC. People who were partially vaccinated were 64% less likely to be hospitalized with the disease than the unvaccinated.

The risk for severe illness increases with age, and because older adults are at highest risk, the CDC prioritized them for vaccination. About 68% of adults 65 and older in the **More On P10**

Mercury Shows Upward Trend In Kashmir

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The mercury in Kashmir has been showing an upward trend with the minimum temperature on Thursday rising above normal in all parts of the Valley, officials said.

A meteorological department official said that Srinagar recorded a low of 11.6 degree Celsius against 10.2 degree Celsius on the previous night. The temperature was 2.3 degree Celsius above normal for this time of the season in the summer capital of J&K, he said.

Qazigund recorded a low of 8.6 degree Celsius against previous night's 7.7 degree Celsius and it was above normal by 0.8 degree Celsius. **More On P10**

TMC To Retain Bengal, DMK Sweep In TN: Exit Polls

KO Web Desk

SRINAGAR: Hours after polling for the assembly elections in five states and one Union Territory ended on Thursday evening, most of the exit polls predicted that the Mamata Banerjee-led Trinamool Congress would retain West Bengal while the DMK-led alliance would come to power in Tamil Nadu.

Most of the pollsters have also predicted a landslide win for the Left Front government in Kerala



while in Assam, the BJP is likely to retain power.

The counting of the votes in West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Assam, Kerala and UT of Puducherry will

begin on May 2.

Trinamool Congress is likely to get a third straight term in Bengal, though with a majority greatly shrunk, an aggregate of six

exit polls indicate.

The challenger BJP may not get close to their dream of winning 200 assembly seats. But the party is likely to emerge a close second to the Trinamool -- a far cry from its current paltry few seats in the assembly.

The Trinamool Congress, which surged to power in 2011 toppling the 34-year Left citadel, had improved its tally by 27 seats in 2016, winning 2011.

Tamil Nadu assembly elections were conducted in a single **More On P10**

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