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P5 STATE

STAYING HOME A MUST AS DOUBLE MUTANT STRAIN HIGHLY INFECTIOUS: TOP KASHMIR MEDICO

One of the leading preventive medicine experts of J&K, Prof. Dr Mohammad Salim Khan, Head of Department, Community Medicine, Government Medical College Srinagar Thursday stressed upon the...

P6 GENDERED VACCINATION

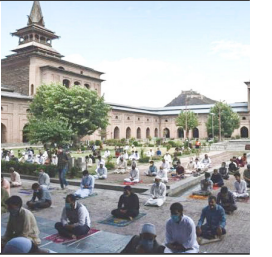
There is a huge difference in the number of women and men who are getting vaccinated against Covid-19 in different districts of the Kashmir division of Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory. According to the data available on India's COVID-19 Vaccine ...



P3 CITY

NO JUMU'ATUL-WIDA, SHAB-E-QADR PRAYERS AT JAMIA MASJID SRINAGAR

Aniومان Auqaf Jamia Masjid Thursday announced that Jumu'atul-Wida and Shab-e-Qadr programmes at the Jamia Masjid Srinagar stand cancelled due to exponential rise...



Quote!

If anyone deprives an heir of his inheritance, Allah will deprive him of his inheritance in Paradise on the Day of Resurrection
—Prophet Muhammad (Pbuh)

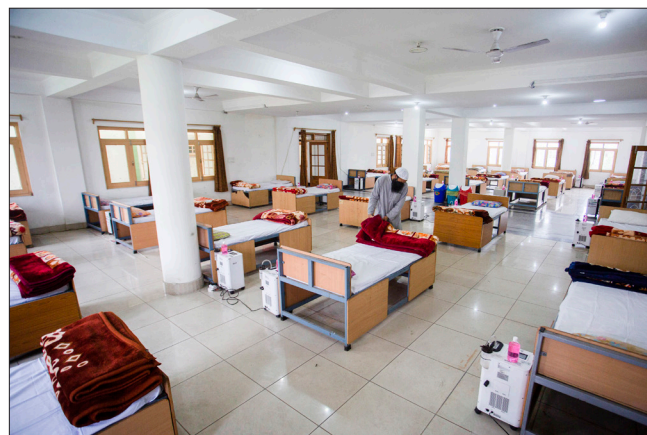
J&K Logs Highest Daily Covid Tally Of 4926, 52 Deaths

Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir reported on Thursday the highest ever single-day spike in coronavirus cases as 4926 more people tested positive for infection while 52 others succumbed to Covid-19 in different healthcare facilities in the Union Territory during the last 24 hours.

According to the officials, 34 people died due to coronavirus related complications in Jammu while 18 succumbed to the deadly infection in Kashmir Valley pushing the overall fatality count since the outbreak of pandemic last year to 2562–1068 in Jammu division and 1494 in Kashmir.

In Valley, they said, the victims included a 30-year-old



Srinagar Hajji House Converted into COVID wellness centre. KO Photo Abid Bhat

from Pulwama, who died at SKIMS Bemina, a day after she was admitted to the Covid-19 management facility here. Three more persons—a

74-year-old man from Chanapora, an 85-year-old man from Beerwah Budgam and a 67-year-old man from Nawab Bazar. **More On P10**

Health Dept Issues Media Gag Order

Sets Up Media Desk, Names Spokesperson To Stop 'Misinformation'

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Authorities in Kashmir on Thursday directed the staff of the health department to refrain from interacting with the media, while establishing a dedicated media desk and appointing a spokesperson to stop circulation of "contradictory and confusing messages" which creates "unnecessary and avoidable panic".

In an order, Director of Health

Services, Kashmir, Mushtaq Rather enjoined upon all chief medical officers/medical superintendents/block medical officers of Kashmir Division to issue instructions to all the staff under their administrative domain to desist from media interactions.

The order said it has been seen that contradictory and confusing messages are being circulated, which misinforms the public and creates unnecessary and avoidable panic.

The director asked the officers to initiate strict disciplinary action against anyone indulging in such behaviour. They shall **More On P10**

24TH RAMAZAN

	Iftar TODAY	Sehri TOMMOROW
FIQAH HANAFIYA	07:21	04:04
FIQAH JAFARIYA	07:30	04:00

NEWS DIGEST

BSF Kills 'Intruder' on Pak Border

JAMMU: The Border Security Force on Thursday shot dead an alleged intruder along the Indo-Pak border in Jammu and Kashmir's Samba district, officials said. Alert BSF troops observed movement of a person along the International Border (IB) in the forward area of Samba sector at 2.35 am, they said. The person was challenged but he did not stop. Subsequently, he was shot dead, the officials said. **More On P10**

LG Extends Jummat-ul-Vida Greetings

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Thursday extended his warm greetings to people on the eve of Jummat-ul-Vida. In a felicitation message, the Lt Governor observed that such auspicious occasions provide an opportunity to offer special prayers and seek the blessings of the almighty, an official spokesperson said Thursday. The LG, he said, expressed hope that the occasion would further instill the spirit of brotherhood and compassion among. **More On P10**

Dr. Samia Named Principal GMC Srinagar

SRINAGAR: Government of Jammu and Kashmir on Thursday sanctioned accord to the appointment of Dr. Samia Rashid as Principal, Government Medical College, Srinagar. An Order Number 374-JK (HME) of 2021 Dated 06-05-2021 to this effect, of which a copy lies with news agency Global News Service (GNS), states that "...Dr. Samia Rashid, Professor and Head, Department of Medicine, Government Medical College, Srinagar, as **More On P10**

Cops Shifted After Drug Peddler Flees

SRINAGAR: A Station House Officer (SHO) and a head constable at the Police Station Sumbal in Bandipora district were transferred on Thursday, barely a day after a notorious drug peddler escaped from police custody. Inspector Sajad Ahmad and head constable Abdul Hamid of police station Sumbal were transferred to the District Police lines Bandipora with immediate effect, reads an order issued by SSP Bandipora. The policemen, as per the reports **More On P10**

...LG Takes Cognizance Of Media Reports

Officials Asked To Monitor On-Ground Situation

Observer News Service

JAMMU: Taking cognizance of the media reports regarding Covid-19 management in the hospitals across the Union Territory, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha Thursday directed the concerned functionaries to ensure that doctors are available at the hospitals and every individual seeking medicare is attended with full dedication. Chairing a meeting to review the evolving Covid situation



and containment measures taken thereof, in which, senior doctors, health officials, Chief Medical Officers and Deputy

Commissioners of Jammu Division participated, the LG directed for increasing the additional **More On P10**

...HOME SUPPLY OF OXYGEN

HC Directs Govt To Appoint Nodal Officers

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir High Court has directed the administration to nominate the adequate number of nodal officers to ensure supply of oxygen to the patients

undergoing treatment at their homes.

The court passed the directions on a suo motu petition admitted by it last year regarding the coronavirus pandemic.

The division bench, comprising Chief Justice **More On P10**

2 KAS Officers To Oversee Containment Efforts

Jammu and Kashmir government on Thursday deployed two senior officers to oversee all Covid containment related work at Jammu and Kashmir divisions respectively. One of them, Shahid Iqbal Choudhary (IAS), Administrative Secretary, Tribal Affairs Department, **More On P10**

...REJIG IN JK POLICE

Srinivas Posted DGP Prison

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir administration on Thursday ordered a reshuffle of nine top IPS officers, including four DGP-rank officers.

Dr B Srinivas, commandant general of HG-SDRF, J&K, was posted as the new director general of prisons. He shall continue to hold the additional charge of the post of director, fire and emergency service, J&K, till further orders.

The transferred officers include four DGP-rank officials and five ADGP officers.

V K Singh was transferred from the post of DGP Prisons, J&K, and was posted as commandant general of Home Guards, SDRF, J&K, said an order issued by the principal secretary to government, Home Department, Shaleen Kabra on Thursday.

The post of Commandant General HG-SDRF, J&K, is declared to be equivalent in rank and status to that of DGP, till the time it is held by Singh.

Similarly, R R Swain, the additional director general of police (ADGP), criminal investigation **More On P10**

Fire Safety Audit Of Covid-19 Hospitals Ordered

The Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Pandurang K Pole on Thursday called for conducting fire safety audits and mechanical system audits of all dedicated covid-19 hospitals in Kashmir. The audit has been ordered in the backdrop of the increasing rush of Covid patients resulting in manifold increase in the supply of electricity due to round the clock **More On P10**



Boulevard on Dal Lake presents a deserted look as Covid curbs were further tightened on Thursday- KO photo

3 Militants Killed, Another Surrenders In Shopian: Police

Ajaz Ali

SRINAGAR: Police on Thursday claimed to have killed three local Al-Badr militants, while another laid down arms before the state forces during a pre-dawn encounter in Shopian district of south Kashmir.

In the wee hours Thursday, Special Operations Group (SOG) of police, army's 44 RR and the personnel of CRPF 178 battalion laid a siege around Kanigam in Shopian on the basis of a specific input regarding presence of militants in the area, a police spokesperson said.

He said the joint team gave a surrender offer to the militants when their presence got ascertained shortly after the search operation was launched in the area. "Family members of the

trapped militants were also called to the encounter site to motivate and persuade them to surrender," he said, adding "Due to the efforts of security forces and repeated appeals, one of the trapped militant Tausif Ahmad ultimately laid down his arms before the joint forces."

Ahmad, as per the police spokesperson also appealed to his trapped companions to surrender, however, they turned down the surrender offer and fired indiscriminately on the joint search party which was retaliated leading to an encounter.

The police spokesperson said that in the ensuing encounter, all the three hold-up militants were killed and their bodies were retrieved from the site of encounter.

He identified the trio as Danish Mir, **More On P10**

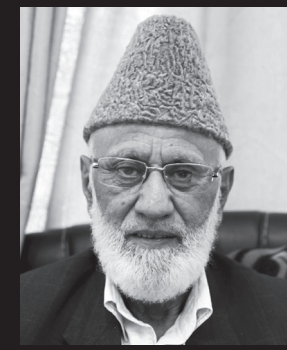
Quiet Burial For Sehrai In His Native Village

Observer Monitoring Desk

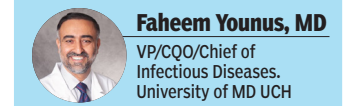
SRINAGAR: Tehreek-e-Hurriyat chairman Mohammad Ashraf Sehrai was on Thursday laid to rest at a martyrs' graveyard in his ancestral village in Kupwara district of Jammu and Kashmir as per COVID protocol, officials said here.

Sehrai, who was arrested and booked under the Public safety Act last year, died at a Jammu hospital on Wednesday while in custody.

"Burial of separatist leader late Ashraf Sehrai completed as per Covid protocol in presence of family members at his native place," Inspector General of Police Vijay Kumar said in a tweet. **More On P10**



Sehrai's demise while in preventive detention under the PSA led to widespread calls for release of other political prisoners from Jammu and Kashmir who are held in various jails within and outside **More On P10**



Why Vaccinated People Getting COVID in the Subcontinent?

1. No vaccine is 100% protective
2. Some vaccines might be better than others
3. Frail host, unable to mount an immune response
4. Getting infected before 2nd dose
5. Corruption? Vials filled with saline?



Note: Dead bodies of Covid patients cannot spread Covid unless you wash them without wearing gloves & goggles. They cannot, I repeat they cannot infect anyone in the same room or in the same car. Only source of getting Covid in funerals is living people.



If you have recovered or are recovering from COVID-19 infection, you should discuss with your physician about medications like Aspirin, Apixaban, Rivaroxaban, Pradaxa etc. to prevent blood clots & see if you need to take them based on your individual risk factors.

Covid Curbs Tightened After Sehrai's Death

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: Normal life remained affected in many areas in Jammu and Kashmir on Thursday with the imposition of the lockdown in the wake of an alarming surge in coronavirus cases, even as the restrictions were tightened in the Valley due to the death of TeH chairman Mohammad Ashraf Sehrai, officials said.

Restrictions on the movement and assembly of people continued to remain imposed in many districts of the UT in the wake of the lockdown announced by the government," the officials said.

They said while curfew was in place across the Kashmir valley and in Jammu district, restrictions on the assembly of people were also imposed in many areas of the Jammu division.

The restrictions were tightened in many areas of the valley following the death of Sehrai, who passed away at a hospital in Jammu on Wednesday, the officials said.

Sehrai was under PSA detention at Udhampur jail where he was shifted to a hospital after his health deteriorated. He was buried at his ancestral village in Kupwara district of north Kashmir in the early hours of the morning as per COVID protocol. The officials said **More On P10**