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03 Diabetics require extra caution against Corona: Dr Jitendra

04 Coronavirus: 17 people who returned from abroad among 849 kept in quarantine in Doda

10 T20 World Cup: ICC postpones all qualifying events

Website : www.statetimes.in, Email: statetimes1@gmail.com

THIRD NAVRATRA

Maa Chandraghanta
Chandraghanta is the third incarnation of Maa Durga and worshipped on third Navratra. Maa Chandraghanta has weapons in her hands. She rides on Tiger. This day has specific significance as on this day the soul of worshipper enters in 'Manipur Chakra'. By the blessings of this Devi one gets rid of enemies, bad souls and gets politeness, and courage. Mantra to be recited nine times on this day is :-

"Om Kleeng Hareng Aing Bhagwati Chandraghanta Mam Sarvam Bandhan Naashe Naashe Swaha"

ॐ क्लीं ह्रीं ऐं भगवती चन्द्रघंटा मम सर्वम् बन्धन नाशाय स्वाहा

Four doctors transferred

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The government on Thursday transferred four doctors.

According to order issued by Atal Dulloo, Financial Commissioner, Health & Medical Education Department, Dr. Arun Arora, Consultant Anesthesia, Government Hospital Sarwal has been posted at CHC Akhnoor; Dr. Jyoti Sakral, Consultant Anesthesia, CHC Akhnoor at DH Udhampur; Dr. Pawan Kumar, Consultant Anesthesia, DH Udhampur at CHC Ramnagar; Dr. Vishal Gupta, Medical Officer, under orders of transfer/adjustment as I/c Consultant Anesthesia, CHC Ramnagar has been posted as I/c Consultant Anesthesia Govt Hospital Sarwal.

Owner of Urdu daily booked over fake news on coronavirus in Poonch

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Police has booked an owner of an Urdu newspaper for allegedly publishing a fake news about the coronavirus in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district, officials said.

A case has been registered against an owner and reporter of an Urdu newspaper for publishing a fake news in his daily that six persons have tested positive for the COVID-19 in Poonch, creating fear and confusion among the local populace, they said.

Acting on a complaint, police under the direction of SSP of Poonch Ramesh Angral registered an FIR against the owner of the daily, the officials said, adding investigation in

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WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 27.8°C Min: 14.2°C

Humidity
Max: 75 Min: 55

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 15.1°C Min: 4.1°C

Humidity
Max: 82 Min: 54

Sunset : 18:47 Hours
Sunrise : 06:32 Hours

First Coronavirus death in Kashmir; 2 minors test positive, inquiry ordered

'8-month old India's youngest Corona patient', cases in J&K rise to 14, 5,482 persons under surveillance in J&K

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR/JAMMU: A 65-year-old man hailing from Hyderpora area of the city died on Thursday, becoming the first fatality in Jammu and Kashmir due to covid-19.

Government spokesperson Rohit Kansal also confirmed the death via Twitter.

"First death due to Coronavirus- 65 years old Male from Hyderpora Srinagar. Four of his contacts also tested positive yesterday," Kansal said.

Four people had tested positive for coronavirus in J-K on Wednesday, taking the total number of cases to 11.

Authorities in Kashmir have expressed apprehensions that the cases could be more than reported in the Valley as a significant number of people appeared to have concealed their travel history.

In another grim development, two siblings, both minors, were tested positive in the Valley while a Rajouri resident with history of close contact with (now deceased)



Jammu wears deserted look amid 21-day long lockdown.

positive case was also tested positive, taking the number of cases in Jammu and Kashmir to 14, officials said.

"Two more positive cases in Srinagar. Siblings (seven-years-old and eight-months-old)," government spokesperson Rohit Kansal tweeted.

The eight-month-old might be the youngest to be infected with COVID-19 in the country.

He said they are the grandchildren of a person who had tested positive for COVID-19 on Tuesday in Srinagar and had a travel history to Saudi Arabia.

With these two, the total

Bemina to explain their position forthwith.

He also directed Additional Commissioner Kashmir Tassaduq Hussain Mir to inquire into the matter for action against the officers.

Mir has been directed to submit a report within two days.

Pole said the inquiry had nothing to do with the coronavirus patient who died on Thursday.

"The inquiry has been ordered not for punitive purposes but with curative objectives so that such incidents are not repeated," the Divisional Commissioner told PTL.

According to a report furnished by the Principal SKIMS Medical College, the patient had reported to the casualty department of SKIMS Hospital Bemina on March 21 along with his travel history and was found to be a COVID-19 suspect.

The report said the patient, who tested positive later on, was not handled as per the required protocol.

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Free foodgrain, cash to deal with eco cost of lockdown; Govt unveils Rs 1.7 lakh Cr package

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: The government on Thursday unveiled a Rs 1.70 lakh crore economic package involving free foodgrain and cooking gas to poor for the next three months, one-time doles to women and poor senior citizens, higher wages to workers and measures to boost liquidity of employees as it looked to contain the impact of unprecedented nationwide lockdown.

Over 80 crore ration card holders will each get 5 kg of wheat or rice and one kg of preferred pulses free of cost every month for the next three months to ensure that poor are not hungry because of the close down of businesses.

Poor women, who got free cooking gas under the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana during the last three years, will get free LPG refills in the next three months to tide over tight finance following the nationwide lockdown, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said, adding this will benefit 8.3 crore women. Besides, 20.5 crore women



Jan Dhan Account holders will get Rs 500 per month for the next three months, while poor senior citizens, widows and disabled will get a one-time cash dole of Rs 1,000.

For workers, the daily wage under the MNREGA has been increased to Rs 202 from Rs 182, benefiting 5 crore workers who stand to gain about Rs 2,000 in all.

Also, the government will front-load Rs 2,000 payments to farmers in the first week of April under the existing PM Kisan Yojana to benefit 8.69 crore farmers.

With businesses closed during the lockdown, the government will contribute employees as well as employer's contribution to the provident fund for the next three months of companies with up to 100 employees with 90 per cent earning not more than Rs 15,000. The contribution will be a total of 24 per cent of eligible wages.

Also, workers will be allowed to draw a non-refundable advance of 75 per cent from credit in provident fund account or three months salary, whichever is lower, she said.

Sitharaman said the limit of collateral-free loans to 63 lakh women self-help groups is being doubled to

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2G services to continue in J&K till April 3

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir administration on Thursday decided to continue with the restrictions imposed on high speed mobile data services across the Union Territory till April 3.

"After taking note of the overall situation in the UT of J&K and the latest reports of the law enforcement agency, particularly with regard to speed related restrictions on

Mobile data services, the internet speed shall be restricted to 2G only upto April 3," reads the order issued by Principal Secretary, Shaleen Kabra.

"The post-paid sim card holders shall be provided with access to the internet. However, such access shall not be made available on pre-paid sim cards unless verified as per norms applicable for post-paid connections," it added.



Untimely 'azaans' lead to panic in Kashmir Places of worship closed in Srinagar

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Panic gripped Kashmir late on Wednesday night after there were untimely 'azaans' from mosques at several places across the valley amid the lockdown imposed to check the spread of coronavirus.

Some people reached their nearby mosques while many prayed at their homes after the 'azaans' at 10 pm on Wednesday, officials said.

A religious organisation in Pakistan had reportedly asked Muslims across the world to come out of their houses and offer prayers at

around 10 pm.

The people who had reached the mosques stayed there for some time and later returned to their homes, officials said.

Meanwhile, in view of the coronavirus scare and gatherings at mosques on Wednesday night, the authorities appealed to the people not to gather at religious places and stay home.

"Prayers are equally effective from home as they would be from a religious place. Don't call people out when everyone in world is #StayingHomeNow," district magistrate Srinagar Shahid Choudhary said on Twitter.

He said closing of religious places, which attract gatherings, is an important step to save a whole population.

"Let's stay indoors, stay safe to be able to worship again," he said.

Later, Choudhary said managements of various religious places had cooperated with the administration and closed the places.

"Closure of all religious places in #Srinagar is under way. With active cooperation of Management committees.

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Revered shrines Hazratbal, Naqshband Saheb show the way. #StayAtHome," he said in another tweet.

"Dastgeer Saheb, Gurudwara Saheb Chhati Padshahi and others. Mosques follow. Thankful to officials on ground and all management committees. #StayAtHome," he added.

In view of increased number of persons infected with coronavirus and in an effort to contain spread of the infection in the district, the District Magistrate Srinagar has appealed to management

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Coronavirus: India extends ban on international passenger flights till April 14

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: All international commercial passenger flights will remain suspended till April 14, aviation regulator Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) announced on Thursday, amid a nationwide lockdown to prevent the spread of the novel coronavirus.

The DGCA on March 19 had announced that no international commercial passenger flight operations will take place in India from 1:30 AM on March 23 to 5:30 AM on March 29. "In continuation of circular-II dated

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Pak troops resorted to shelling along LoC, IB in Poonch, Kathua, Uri

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Pakistani troops resorted to small arms firing and mortar shelling along the Line of Control (LoC) and the International Border (IB) in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch and Kathua districts, drawing retaliation from Indian soldiers, officials said on Thursday.

Pakistani troops resorted to small arms firing on forward posts along the LoC in Dewar sector of Poonch dis-

trict on Thursday afternoon, a defence spokesperson said.

Indian troops retaliated and the exchanges lasted for over 20 minutes, the spokesperson said.

Earlier, Pakistan rangers fired mortar shells and opened fire on forward areas along the IB in Pansar, Manyari and Chak Changa in Hiranagar sector on Wednesday night and this continued till morning, officials said.

BSF troops guarding the

LG seeks donations for J&K Relief Fund

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor, Girish Chandra Murmu on Thursday appealed people to contribute donations for Jammu and Kashmir Relief Fund.

"Various organizations/individuals are approaching the government at different levels, expressing their desire for making donations towards the efforts being undertaken to mitigate the spread of COVID-19," Lieutenant Governor said. "All such contributions

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COVID-19: Won't allow rush in banks, JK Bank Chairman

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: At a time when Jammu and Kashmir administration is implementing lockdown in letter and spirit with Kashmir reporting its first death due to COVID-19, J&K Bank Chairman R K Chibber on Thursday made a fervent appeal to its customers not to create rush in Banks and ATMs to maintain social distancing.

"In view of the COVID-19, the business hours for

Dr Haroon deployed as OSD in DHS Kashmir

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Dr. Qazi Haroon, I/c State Immunization Officer, Directorate of Family Welfare, MCH & Immunization has been deployed as OSD in the Directorate of Health Services (DHS), Kashmir for assisting in coronavirus efforts, in addition to his own duties.

The order in this regard was issued on Thursday by Atal Dulloo, Financial Commissioner, Health & Medical Education Department.

Centre caps MRP of 3 ply meltblown face masks at Rs 16/piece till June 30

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: The Centre has capped the maximum retail price of 3 ply face masks made of meltblown non-woven fabric at Rs 16 per piece till June 30 after clearing confusion with the manufacturers, Consumer Affairs Secretary Pawan Agarwal said on Thursday.

On March 21, the Consumer Affairs Ministry had notified MRP for 2 ply and 3 ply 'surgical' face masks at Rs 8 and Rs 10 per piece, respectively. But for 3 ply meltblown face masks, it had said MRP would at the rate that prevailed as on February 12.

"We had a meeting with face mask manufacturers. They were facing some challenges because of lack of clar-



ity on MRP front. So, we have decided to fix the MRP of 3 ply meltblown face masks at Rs 16 per piece," Agarwal told PTL.

The retail price of 2 ply and 3 ply surgical face masks remain the same. The rates will remain in force up to June 30, he said.

Efforts are being made to ensure sufficient supply of face masks and hand sanitizers are available in the current situation, he added.

PM pitches for new crisis management protocol at G-20 video conference on coronavirus

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: As the world reels under the coronavirus pandemic, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday urged the powerful G-20 grouping to put human beings rather than economic targets at the centre of the vision for global prosperity and cooperation.

In his address at a video conference of the G-20 leaders, Modi also pitched for developing a new crisis management protocol and procedures to deal with global health crisis besides significantly boosting capability of organisations like the WHO, government sources said.

He also said that G-20 should work together to reduce economic hardships,



particularly of the poor nations in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic which has killed over 21,000 people and infected more than 470,000 globally.

The prime minister called for ushering in a new globalisation for collective well being of entire humankind, noting that medical research should be freely and openly available for all countries.

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Prez likely to address Governors, LGs on coronavirus

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: President Ram Nath Kovind is likely to address all governors and lieutenant governors soon through video conference to discuss the coronavirus outbreak and ask them to help the state administrations combat the endemic, an official said on Thursday.

The move came after Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a series of meetings with various stakeholders, including chief ministers, industrialists, doctors and healthcare workers, representatives of the pharmaceutical industry and senior editors.

The president is expected to address the governors and lieutenant governors soon to encourage them to be involved in the fight against

coronavirus, the senior government official said.

The involvement of the constitutional heads is seen as an all-out effort of the central government to deal with the emerging medical crisis engulfing the world.

Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister P K Mishra, Cabinet Secretary Rajiv Gauba, Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla also held several meetings with chief secretaries of all states and asked them to ensure full compliance of the 21-day lockdown and at the same time to ensure the availability of essential commodities.

COVID-19 has so far claimed 13 lives in India and there are 649 positive cases.

On Thursday, the

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