

**WALIA**  
Hair Transplant Centre  
Latest Machines, Proper Sterilization  
**STITCHLESS & SCARLESS**



98152-44152, 98151-34442  
www.hairtransplantcenterindia.com  
www.transplanthairindia.com  
33-B, Sarabha Nagar, Ludhiana, Punjab

HAPPY NAVRATRAS TO ALL OUR READERS

# STATE TIMES

THE BOLD VOICE OF J&K NOW IN DELHI



RNI No. : 66908/96  
Regd. No. JK/346/2019/2021  
Vol. 25 Issue 83 • Jammu • Thursday • March 26, 2020 • Pages 12 • ₹ 3.00  
Air surcharge 50 paise for Leh

**Amandeep Multispecialty OPD Clinic**  
Marble Market Extension, Greater Kailash  
Chowk, National Highway-1A, Jammu.

**Orthopaedic & ENT Surgeon**  
**Dr. Rajeev Vohra**  
MS, DNB, MNAMS  
Senior Consultant Orthopaedics  
Foot & Ankle and Bone Cancer Specialist

**(Maj) Dr. Rajeev Bhagat**  
MBBS, MS (ENT)  
Army Hospital R&R Delhi

**Coming on**  
**22 MARCH, 2020**  
FOR APPOINTMENT CALL:  
**+91-9622965050**  
visit us at : www.amandeeppharmacy.org


**03 DoPT suggests working with 'absolutely necessary' staff: Dr Jitendra**

**04 Doda administration starts production of 1 lakh masks, 10,000 protective gowns**

**10 IPL cancellation on cards after three-week lockdown, Olympics postponement**

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

**SECOND NAVRATRA**



**Maa Brahmcharini**  
Second incarnation of Maa Durga is called Brahmcharini, it comprises of two words, 'Brahm' which means meditation while 'Charini' stands for implementation of character of meditation. She is also called 'Uma'. She has got Kamandal (Vessel) in her left hand while 'Mala' (string of beads) in the right. Worshipper of this Devi gets power to resist and fight under all odds. Mantra for Goddess Brahmcharini to be recited nine times is :-  
"Om Hreng Aing Bhagwati Brahmcharini Mum Sarvam Sarv Shatroon Vash Manay Thaa Thaa Swaha."  
ॐ ह्रीं ऐं भगवती  
ब्रह्मचारिणीं मम सर्वं सर्वं  
शत्रून् वश मानय ता ठा स्वाहा

## Massive preparations made to tackle COVID-19 during lockdown in J&K

4 more test positive, number rises to 11; 5,124 persons under observation

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The Chief Secretary BVR Subrahmanyam on Wednesday convened a high level meeting to review the preparedness and measures put in place in the wake of nationwide lockdown for containment of COVID-19 Epidemic as announced by the Prime Minister on March 24.

Financial Commissioner, Finance Department, Financial Commissioner, Health and Medical Education Department, Director General of Police, Principal Secretary, Home Department, Principal Secretary, Information Department, Administrative Secretary, Industries and Commerce Department, Administrative Secretary, PHE, Irrigation and Flood Control Department, Administrative Secretary, Power Development, Administrative Secretary, FCS&CA, Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction, Administrative Secretary, General Administration Department, Mission Director, NHM, Director Information beside senior officers of RTC and concerned departments participated in the meeting.

Divisional Commissioners, Jammu & Kashmir, all Deputy Commissioners and District Police Heads attended the meeting through video conference.

During the meeting, Financial Commissioner Health and Medical Education gave a brief detail of measures already put in place by the health department for control, prevention and management of COVID-19 in Jammu and Kashmir. It was informed that the two confirmed cases of coronavirus have been now tested negative after following due protocol in Jammu. He also informed that keeping in view the rise in number of confirmed cases in the country, various quarantine facilities have been established in the entire Union Territory of J&K.

After reviewing the preparedness of the health and other allied departments, it was decided that Panchayats, local bodies, lambardars and chowkidars will be involved to trace/report the people having foreign travel history. The Chief Secretary directed for immediate tracing of such persons and putting them in mandatory 14 days quarantine period to avoid community transmission.

In order to ensure smooth movement of trucks on National Highway carrying essential commodities, two check points shall be established each in Jammu and Kashmir division. In Jammu Division, the check points will be established at Lakhampur and Jammu and in Kashmir Division at Qazigund and Srinagar. Passes shall be issued by designated authority to these trucks at identified points. To restrict the unnecessary movement of people, the meeting also decided that all inter district movement of people/vehicles will remain suspended during the period essential goods and RTC buses having valid passes issued by the authorities.

Further, it was decided all government offices, except District Administration, Police, Home Guards, Civil Defence, Fire and Emergency Services, Disaster Management, Electricity, Water, Sanitation, Treasury and other essential services, will remain closed till 14th April. It was informed that Treasuries will remain functional to ensure smooth closing of the financial year on 31st March.

To avoid inconvenience to the public at large, the DCs were asked to encourage and facilitate home delivery of ration, groceries, fruit, vegetables, dairies and animal products to minimize the movement of individuals outside their homes.

During the meeting, the DGP also briefed about the preparations, measures being taken by various wings and units of police force with regard to control the



Live Darshans of Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine after morning and evening Aarti at MH 1 Shradha channel during Navratras. The Aarti timing is 6.30 AM to 8.00 AM & 6.30 PM to 8.00 PM.

## Shat Chandi Maha Yagya commences at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
KATRA: Shat Chandi Maha Yagya, organised by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, at the Holy Cave Shrine of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi commenced here on Wednesday on auspicious occasion of beginning of Navratras amidst chanting of Vedic Mantras and performance of other religious ceremonies. The Maha Yagya, which is being performed at the Holy Cave Shrine during Navratras for peace, prosperity and health of humanity, will conclude with Purna Ahuti on Ramnavami.

Ramesh Kumar, Chief Executive Officer, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board; Vivek Verma, Additional CEO and Naresh Kumar, SDM Bhawan were present on the occasion. The Shat Chandi Maha Yagya will be telecasted from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM daily during Navratras. People can also have live Darshan of 'Maa Vaishno Devi's Pindi Roop' every day during morning and evening Aarti.

Speaking on the occasion, the CEO said that as per past practice, the Bhawan of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi, Atka and surrounding areas have been decorated with flowers on Navratras. It is pertinent to mention that in view of prevailing

### Gunmen attack Gurdwara in Kabul, massacre 25 worshippers

**AGENCY**  
KABUL: At least 25 worshippers were killed and eight others injured when heavily armed suicide bombers blasted their way into a prominent gurdwara on Wednesday in the heart of Afghanistan's capital of Kabul, in one of the deadliest attacks on the minority Sikh community in the strife-torn country.

The Islamic State (IS) terror group, which has targeted Sikhs before

### Restrictions tightened in Kashmir

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: Restrictions on movement imposed in Kashmir to prevent the spread of coronavirus were tightened on Wednesday and strict action initiated against violators, following Prime Minister Narendra Modi's announcement of a 21-day nationwide lockdown, officials said.

Security forces sealed off several roads and erected barriers across the Valley

### CBSE extends application deadline for school affiliation till April 30

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NEW DELHI: The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) on Wednesday extended application deadline for affiliation by schools till April 30 in view of the coronavirus outbreak.

"As per the norms, the period for applying for affiliation under various categories, including fresh affiliation, upgradation,

## Tolling operations closed for next 21 days

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways on Wednesday asked National Highways Authority of India to close down commercial and private establishments for a period of 21 days.

The directive came after NHAI in a letter sought the ministry's direction regarding continuation of tolling operation on fee plazas of NHAI in light of the COVID-19 outbreak.

"Commercial and private establishments shall be closed down for a period of 21 days with effect from

## LG approves series of support measures for poor and needy

Rs 1000 assistance for 3.5 lakh workers, 2 installments of pensions for over 7.7 lakh pensioners

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The Lt Governor G.C Murmu approved a series of proposals to provide support to the needy and destitute in the light of the extraordinary situation caused by the ongoing Corona pandemic and the consequent lockdown. The move is expected to benefit nearly 35 lakh people including organised and unorganised workers, daily wagers, pension holders and ordinary citizens.

The LG directed the Labour & Employment department to release Rs 1,000 to each of the 3.50 lakh workers registered with Building & Other Construction Workers Welfare Board for purchase



department to release Rs 1,000 to each of the 3.50 lakh workers registered with Building & Other Construction Workers Welfare Board for purchase

## PM warns against misbehaviour with frontline staff

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday warned of tough action against those misbehaving with people on the frontline of the fight against coronavirus like doctors and airline crew, and sought the cooperation of citizens with the administration to deal with the crisis.

Modi chose a video interaction with residents of Varanasi, the constituency he represents in Parliament, to respond to several queries related to the pandemic and his government's response to it, and asserted that focusing on a few incidents of shortcomings will not help at this



hour. If he claimed that all is well, then he would be deceiving himself, the prime minister said, and then added that what is a more important question is that whether the pandemic has to be defeated or not even if it means facing certain difficulties.

Even in normal times, people face certain problems, he said.

Noting that 'Navaratri' has started from Wednesday, he asked people to take care of nine poor families on each of the nine auspicious days, saying nothing can

### PDD amnesty scheme extended

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: In wake of coronavirus outbreak, the government on Wednesday further extended the amnesty scheme for electricity consumers.

Last date for depositing of first installment has been extended up to April 30 instead of April 10 while last date for depositing the second installment now will be May 31 as against May 10.

Last date for depositing third installment now has been fixed as June 30 instead of June 10.

## Coronavirus: Over 400 persons hide travel histories in Srinagar; 150 traced, quarantined

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: The Srinagar control room established for coordinating elaborate measures put in place in the district in efforts to contain spread of the coronavirus infection has received complaints about over 400 persons who have returned from outside countries in the recent past but have hidden their travel histories.

These complaints have been received during this past week after the first positive case of the district surfaced on March 18.

Of these over 200 have been verified and found to be true so far after surveillance teams traced the persons whose complaints were about. Of the latter around 150 persons with recent travel histories to outside countries have been shifted into quarantine.

The remaining 50-odd persons were found to have had national travel histories and were put under home quarantine whereas the

### People with foreign travel history urged to report

JAMMU: The J&K government has urged people to voluntarily report to authorities if they have a recent travel history to coronavirus-hit countries amid heightened concerns that those returning from abroad were evading screening and raising the possibility of the spread

## All government offices closed in J&K till April 14

Admn directs immediate release of pensions

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir administration on Wednesday ordered closure of all government offices in the Union Territory till April 14, except those providing essential services.

"In view of the guidelines issued by MHA regarding social distancing measures, it is hereby ordered that all the government offices in the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir shall remain closed till April 14, 2020 except those associated with providing essential services," reads the order issued by General Administration Department.

The government offices which associated with providing essential services include Police, Home Guards, Civil Defence, Fire and Emergency Services, Disaster Management and Prisons, all Health & Medical Education Department institutions, District Administration and Treasury, Electricity, Water, Sanitation and SRTC and Municipal Bodies (Only staff required for essential services like sanitation, personnel related to water supply etc).

"All concerned Administrative Secretaries /Divisional Commissioners/ Deputy Commissioners/Heads of the Departments/Managing Directors, etc shall draw up a minimal roster of officers/officials/staff, who are required to render essential services within their Departments/offices and shall attend office from March 25 to April 14, 2020," its stated and added, "The rest of employees shall be available on telephone and electronic means of communication at all times and shall attend office in cases of any exigency as and when required."

"All other employees shall work from Home till 14th of April, 2020," it further stated.

Meanwhile, the Administrative Council which met here under the chairmanship of Lt. Governor, G C Murmu has directed the immediate release of all pensions of one month to give reprieve to the retired class in view of the situation arising out of the ongoing COVID 19 pandemic.

The Finance Department has been asked to take necessary steps in this regard.

Advisors to Lt. Governor, K K Sharma, Farooq Khan and Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Chief Secretary, B V R Subrahmanyam; Financial Commissioner, Health & Medical Education, Atal Dulloo; Principal Secretary to Lt. Governor, Bipul Pathak and Principal Secretary, Planning & Development & Information, Rohit Kansal were present in the meeting.

## India: Coronavirus cases cross 600, first death in TN

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NEW DELHI/SHIMLA: Coronavirus cases in the country crossed 600 on Wednesday as authorities beefed up preparedness to fight the pandemic with a chain of hospitals of the Army ordnance factories and central paramilitary forces earmarking over 2,000 beds for isolation and treatment of people affected by COVID-19.

In addition, the Hamirpur district administration in Himachal Pradesh took over all the ten hostels with 2,000 rooms of the National Institute of Technology (NIT) for creating an isolation centre, an official said in Shimla.

A 2,200-bed state-run hospital in Kolkata has stopped admitting new patients who are suffering from other diseases and was discharging patients whose condition had improved as part of efforts to create a dedicated isolation centre, another official said in Kolkata.

Addressing people of his constituency in Varanasi via a video link, Prime Minister Narendra Modi reiterated that social distancing and staying indoors were the only way out and the best option to deal with coronavirus.

"Around one lakh people infected with coronavirus are recovering, this also needs to be highlighted," he said.

**WEATHER**

Temperature (Jammu)  
Max: 18.5°C Min: 5.8°C

Humidity  
Max: 97 Min: 48

Temperature (Srinagar)  
Max: 10.7°C Min: -3.9°C

Humidity  
Max: 81 Min: 57

Sunset : 18:08 Hours  
Sunrise : 07:23 Hours