

Ramadan begins from today

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Apr 13: The Ramadan moon has been sighted this evening and tomorrow will mark the first day of the holy fasting month of Ramadan.

During the holy month of Ramadan Muslims fast from dawn to dusk and offer special prayers during the night. The Holy Quran was revealed this month.

Jammu and Kashmir Waqf Board has been directed by the Government to impose a fine (Contd on page 9 Col 3)

2 militants, 3 OGWs arrested

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Apr 13: Security forces today arrested two militants and three Over Ground Workers of militants

* Pic on page 9

Video on www.excelsiornews.com

from Handwara area of North-Kashmir's Kupwara district who were planning attacks on security forces and Panchayat members.

A police officer said that on (Contd on page 9 Col 3)

Govt fast-tracks approval for vaccines

NEW DELHI, Apr 13:

With an aim to expand the basket of COVID-19 vaccines and enhance the pace of inoculation in India, the Central Government today said it has decided to fast-track emergency approvals for all coronavirus jabs that have been given a similar nod by the World Health Organization or regulators in the United States, Europe, Britain or Japan.

(Contd on page 9 Col 7)

Spike in Ladakh too: 125 new positives 3 Corona deaths in Jammu, one in Kashmir; 1269 fresh cases

4 test +ve after two doses and 14 days of vaccination

31 more BSF jawans infected in Udhampur, total 586

Sanjeev Pargal

JAMMU/SRINAGAR/LEH, Apr 13: Jammu and Kashmir today recorded highest single-day COVID-19 cases this year with 1269 persons testing positive across the Union Territory while four persons succumbed to the virus.

Three Corona fatalities and 582 new cases were reported in the Jammu region while one person died of virus and 687 persons tested positive in Kashmir. The Union Territory of Ladakh too continued to witness spike with 125 fresh cases, all in Leh district.

Among three casualties in Jammu region, two were report-

ed from Poonch and one in Jammu district.

Significantly, four persons, who had completed 14-day period after taking two doses of vaccine, have tested positive for COVID-19 in Udhampur district.

Lt Col Inam Danish Khan, Classified Microbiologist Command Hospital Udhampur told the Excelsior that some people are becoming COVID-19 positive even after 14 days of taking second dose of Covishield which is a matter of concern as it can increase transmission of virus and delay the attainment of herd immunity.

He said they have come across 3-4 persons in Udhampur,

who tested positive for COVID-19 even after 14 days of taking two doses of vaccine. All these persons had taken Covishield.

"Such outbreaks of COVID-19 mandates restrictions on travel from Red Zones and regions of high prevalence. J&K's policy of 100 percent testing at all points of entry since the beginning of pandemic is exemplary. J&K has one of the best mitigation measures with the policy of test, treat and trace in the nation," Lt Col Khan said.

Meanwhile, a 73-year-old man from Gandhi Nagar died of COVID in Narayana Hospital Katra today. A 40-year-old main hailing from

(Contd on page 9 Col 7)

12,000 devotees visit Vaishno Devi, Mahayagya begins

Despite COVID, thousands of pilgrims pay obeisance in temples on first Navratra

Avtar Bhat

JAMMU, Apr 13: The first Navratra was celebrated with religious fervour and gaiety across Jammu region today. Despite COVID pandemic, there was heavy rush in the holy temples where thousands of pilgrims paid obeisance

* Watch video on www.excelsiornews.com

during the first day of Navratra which is also the beginning of Hindu New Year as per lunar calendar.

As per reports, about 12,000



Beautifully decorated Durbar of Mata Vaishno Devi Ji on Tuesday. Another pic on page 9.

In addition to it, thousands of pilgrims drawn from different parts of country visited holy shrine of Vaishno Devi Ji in

Reasi district today and performed darshan where the Shrine Board organised Shat Chandi Mahayagya while 16,000 pilgrims visited holy temple of Bawe Wali Mata in Jammu and paid their obeisance there.

In addition to it, thousands of pilgrims visited various other

(Contd on page 9 Col 5)

CBI nabs Passport Asstt taking graft

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Apr 13: The Central Bureau of Investigations (CBI) today arrested Senior Passport Assistant posted in the Regional Passport Office Jammu while accepting graft of Rs 4000 from a person for clearing his passport.

The accused has been identified as Adarsh Kumar, a resident of Lucknow, Uttar (Contd on page 9 Col 3)

Kotwal gets charge of 4 Deptts

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Apr 13: The Union Territory administration of Ladakh has ordered posting of Pawan Kotwal, an IAS officer of erstwhile Jammu and Kashmir cadre of 1994 batch as Principal Secretary Administration of UT of Ladakh.

He has been assigned the duties of Administrative Secretary of four departments including Health and Medical Education, Forest, Ecology and Environment, Revenue and Planning, Development and Monitoring Department.

Intruder shot at by BSF on IB

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Apr 13: A Pakistani intruder was shot at and injured by the BSF when he tried to escape on being observed at the International Border (IB) in RS Pura sector today.

On noticing suspicious movement on the International Border, the BSF became alert and observed a middle-aged man trying to cross the fence and enter the Indian territory in

(Contd on page 9 Col 3)

Calls for achieving targets in time LG reviews development works in Ramban

Excelsior Correspondent

RAMBAN, Apr 13: Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha today visited Ramban and chaired a marathon meeting in which he reviewed the working of district administration, besides taking stock of effective implementation of development activities and flagship schemes by various departments.

He directed the Deputy Commissioner and other district officers to adopt an action oriented approach for prompt redressal of public grievances; besides reaching out to people with all the basic amenities. He further asked the concerned functionaries to closely monitor the ongoing development works for their implementation in right earnest and to achieve the set targets on developmental front. Sinha laid specific thrust on



Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha reviewing development works at Ramban on Tuesday.

important public issues like 100% saturation of social security & beneficiary-oriented schemes and speedy completion of languishing projects.

While reviewing the health-care sector, he observed that the Ayushman Bharat -SEHAT has been launched with a noble objective of providing universal health coverage in J&K and passed strict directions to CMO to achieve 100% coverage under the scheme.

He further directed for sensitizing the people about the benefits of the schemes, besides speeding up the process of distribution of Golden Cards.

While reviewing the COVID-19 containment efforts of the district administration, the Lt Governor directed the Deputy Commissioner to take all precautionary measures, especially in view of Shri Amarnath Ji

(Contd on page 9 Col 1)

Installation of CCTV cameras at vital points in all Police Stations

Implementation of Supreme Court directions yet to begin in J&K UT

Mohinder Verma

Oversight Committees framed but action pending

JAMMU, Apr 13: Due to dilly-dallying approach of the concerned authorities, the directions of the Supreme Court regarding installation of Close Circuit Television (CCTV) cameras at vital points in the Police Stations across the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir have yet not been implemented. Moreover, Oversight Committees have failed to start acting on the Terms of

Reference even after the lapse of several months.

In Special Leave Petition (Criminal) No.3543, the Supreme Court, while dealing with the issue of photography and videography of the crime scenes, vide order dated December 2, 2020 asked all the States and Union Territories to ensure that CCTV cameras are

installed in each and every Police Station.

"In order to ensure that no part of a Police Station is left uncovered, it is imperative to ensure that CCTV cameras are installed at all entry and exit points, main gate of the Police Station, all lock-ups, all corridors, lobby/reception

(Contd on page 9 Col 3)

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