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## 2 LeT commanders among 4 terrorist involved in killings of migrant workers in J&K eliminated

► **SFs foil terror plot by arresting man with live grenade in Kishtwar Distt**

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Security forces on Wednesday eliminated four terrorists, including two commanders of Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT), who were involved in the killing of migrant labourers in Jammu and Kashmir, police said.

While two ultras were killed in the encounter at Dragad in Shopian, two more were eliminated in a gunbattle in Kulgam district, a police official said, adding so far 15 terrorists have been killed in two weeks.

One soldier lost his life while two others sustained injuries in the Shopian operation.

"Police and Army #neutralised LeT district commander (Gulzar Ahmad Reshi) of Kulgam and one other, who were involved in #killings of two poor labourers from Bihar on 17/10/21 at Wanpoh," IGP Kashmir zone Vijay Kumar said in a



tweet. According to a defence spokesman, a joint operation was launched on Wednesday evening after information was received about the movement of two terrorists along the road Ashmuji-Devsar in Kulgam district.

"The area was cordoned off and contact established at about 07.40 PM. Repeated surrender appeals were turned down by terrorists," the spokesman said.

He said the ultras opened fire, forcing the security

forces to retaliate.

"In the ensuing firefight, two terrorists have been neutralised. An AK rifle and other warlike stores have been recovered," he added.

Earlier in the day, security forces launched a cordon and search operation in Dragad area of Shopian district following information about the presence of militants there, the officials said.

They said the search operation turned into an encounter after terrorists opened fire

on the security forces who retaliated.

The officials said two ultras of The Resistance Front (TRF), a shadow outfit of Lashkar-e-Toiba, were killed. They have been identified as Adil Hussain Wani son of Ghulam Hussain Wani resident of Shirmal, District Commander Shopian of proscribed terror outfit LeT (TRF) and Shakir Ahmad Wani son of Ghulam Qadir Wani resident of Litter Pulwama.

Three security force personnel also sustained injuries in the operation. One of the injured soldiers later succumbed to injuries at a hospital here, the officials said.

One of the slain ultras Adil Wani had joined the terrorist ranks in July 2020.

"One of the killed #terrorists has been #identified as Adil Ah Wani, active since 7/2020... So far, 15

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## 78 new COVID cases in J&K, one death

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir recorded 78 fresh COVID-19 cases on Wednesday, raising the infection count to 3,31,299, while another death pushed the toll to 4,429, officials said.

Out of the fresh coronavirus cases, 12 were from the Jammu division and 66 from the Kashmir division, they said.

According to the officials, Srinagar district recorded a

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## Petrol, diesel prices hiked again

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: After two days of lull, petrol and diesel prices on Wednesday were again hiked by 35 paise per litre each, pushing rates to new highs across the country. The price of petrol in Delhi rose to its highest-ever level of Rs 106.19 a litre and Rs 112.11 per litre in Mumbai, according to a price notification of state-owned fuel retailers.

In Mumbai, diesel

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## AC approves 100 pc Smart Metering in J&K; 8 lakh meters to be installed by 2023

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The Administrative Council (AC), which met here on Wednesday under the chairmanship of Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, authorized the Jammu Power Distribution Corporation Ltd. (JPDCL) and Kashmir Distribution Corporation Ltd. (KPDCL) to implement smart metering project in J&K.

Farooq Khan and Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisors to the Lieutenant Governor; Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary, J&K and Nitishwar Kumar, Principal Secretary to the Lieutenant Governor attended the meeting.

Under the smart metering project, 6 lakh smart/prepaid meters will be installed across Jammu and Kashmir through RECPDCL, a wholly owned subsidiary of Rural Electrification Corporation under the Ministry of Power, Government of India. Currently, 2 lakh smart

## LG e-inaugurates kindergartens in 18 Education Zones

BARAMULLA: Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Wednesday visited Baramulla to review overall developmental scenario in the district. He took first-hand appraisal of all central and UT government developmental and social security schemes, besides assessing performance of different departments.

The Lt Governor noted that the UT government is putting sustained efforts to remove difficulties and making social security & welfare schemes easily accessible to all eligible citizens. He exhorted upon officials to undertake regular public outreach activities for ensuring 100% saturation of all the beneficiary-oriented schemes and prompt redressal of public grievances.

While reviewing the district Capex plan and other important infrastructure projects in the district, the Lt Governor issued instructions to the Deputy Commissioner to monitor all infrastructure projects periodically and ensure their completion within stipulated timelines. He

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meters are being installed in Jammu and Srinagar under the Prime Minister's Development Programme (PMDP).

The 'Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme' mainly focuses on reforms in the power sector to improve quality and reliability of

power supply to consumers through a financially and operationally efficient distribution sector.

Smart meters will bring about transparency in metering, billing and collection which will eventually reduce power losses and

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## Farooq Abdullah questions claims of peace, development in J&K

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: National Conference president Farooq Abdullah on Wednesday launched a scathing attack on the BJP over the targeted killings in Kashmir and said it should give an answer to the people over the claims of restoration of peace in the valley.

He also said that the National Conference was never a pro-Pakistan party and always worked for the betterment of all, irrespec-

tive of their caste, creed and religion.



"They (BJP) used to say after abrogation of Article 370 (in August 2019) that they have restored peace in J&K. Where is the promised peace and development? Give answers to the people," Abdullah said addressing party workers in Ramban district.

Eleven civilians, including two teachers, a pharmacy owner and five

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## Massive search operation continues in Poonch-Rajouri forest belt

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The massive search operation against holed-up terrorists continued for the tenth day on Wednesday in the dense forests of Poonch and Rajouri districts, where nine army personnel were killed in two separate attacks last week, officials said.

However, there was no contact with the terrorists as the joint search parties of the army and special operations group of local police moved cautiously in the dense forests of Mendhar and Surankote in Poonch and Thanamandi in Rajouri,



clearing a vast area during the day, they said.

Loud explosions and gunfire rattled Bhatta Durrian earlier during the day which turned out to be the speculative fire used by the search

parties to sanitise a suspected location deep inside the forest belt in Mendhar.

The army had on Tuesday intensified the operation against the holed-up terrorists in Bhatta Durrian forest

in Mendhar, where the locals were asked not to venture out of their homes.

Also on Tuesday, Army Chief General M M Naravane had visited forward areas along the LoC to review the ground situation and ongoing counter-infiltration operations.

The operation in the forest areas in the twin border districts commenced on October 11 when terrorists ambushed a search party killing five soldiers including a Junior Commissioned Officer (JCO) in the Surankote forest of Poonch before another

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## Panun Kashmir, WTA distribute food, water among migrant labourers stranded in Jammu

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: As thousands of migrant labourers continue to arrive in Jammu from Kashmir in the wake of recent incidents of civilian killings in the valley, Panun Kashmir, an organisation of displaced Kashmiri Hindus, and the Warehouse Traders' Association (WTA) have reached out to them with food and water.

The labourers, mostly from Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Chattisgarh, Jharkhand and West Bengal, are camping at and around the Jammu

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## NIA conducts searches in 4 J&K districts, arrests 4 terror associates in terrorism conspiracy

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: National Investigation Agency (NIA) conducted searches at multiple locations in four districts of J&K and arrested four persons in connection with the J&K Terrorism Conspiracy Case (RC-29/2021/NIA/DLI).

The NIA spokesman said that on Wednesday, NIA conducted searches at 11 locations in Srinagar, Pulwama, Kulgam and Baramulla Districts of Jammu and Kashmir and arrested four more accused persons namely Suhail Ahmad Thokar, resident of Kulgam, Kamran

Ashraf Reshi, resident of Hazratbal, Srinagar; Rayid Bashir, resident of Srinagar and Hanan Gulzar Dar, resident of Srinagar.

"The case relates to conspiracy for undertaking violent terrorist acts in J&K and other major cities, by cadres of proscribed terrorist organisations Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM), Hizb-ul-Mujahideen (HM), Al Badr and similar other outfits and their affiliates including The Resistance Front (TRF), People Against Fascist Forces (PAFF), etc," the NIA spokesman said.

He said that the preliminary investigation has revealed that the four accused persons arrested today are terror associates/OGWs of various proscribed terrorist organisations and have been providing logistical and material support to terrorists.

NIA had registered the case as RC 29/2021/NIA/DLI dated October 10, 2021 and initiated the investigation, the spokesman said adding that till now, nine accused persons have been arrested in this case by NIA.

"During the searches

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## Ensure no safe havens anywhere for those who betray India: Modi to CVC, CBI

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KEVADIA: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday directed officials of the Central Vigilance Commission and the Central Bureau of Investigation to ensure there are no safe havens anywhere in the world for those who betray the country.

Virtually addressing a joint conference of the CVC and the CBI at Kevadia in Gujarat, Modi said no matter how powerful a person may be, stern action should be taken against those who work against the interest of the nation or its people.



The statement comes at a time when the central government is engaged in legal proceedings to bring back alleged economic offenders like Vijay Mallya, Nirav Modi and Mehul Choksi, who have taken refuge in foreign countries.

"You have to remember that your partnership is with this 'mitti' (soil), with Maa Bharti (Mother India). There should not be any safe havens anywhere in the world for those who betray the country or its people," the PM said addressing the conference.

However powerful one may be, stern action should be taken against those who work contrary to the national interest or of our people. We should continue our work in the national interest, he said.

Modi said due to the hard work of his government

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## Govt constitutes committee for recommending SKIMS professor for post of Dean Medical Faculty

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Government on Wednesday constituted a committee to recommend a professor of SKIMS for the post of Dean, Medical Faculty at SKIMS Soura.

As per order, Dr Muhammad Sultan Khuroo, who is the member of Governing Body SKIMS will nominate two experts who will work as the member of the committee.

"In suppression of all previous orders on the subject, sanction is hereby accorded to the constitution of a Committee for recommending a Professor of SKIMS for the post of Dean, Medical Faculty at SKIMS, Soura as per the eligibility conditions prescribed for the said post,"

reads the order issued by Manoj Kumar Divedi commissioner/secretary, GAD.

The order further reads that the Financial Commissioner (Additional Chief Secretary), Health and Medical education department will be the Chairman of the committee.

Prof M. S Khuroo, former Director and Dean SKIMS, Soura, two experts to be nominated by Prof M. S Khuroo will be members of the committee and Register Academics, SKIMS Soura will be member secretary of the committee.

"The above Committee shall submit its recommendations to the General Administration Department within a period of 10 days," the order reads.

## Terrorists using new modus operandi to kill targets: Azad



Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad talking to a reporters.

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Veteran Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad on Wednesday said terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir have adopted a new modus operandi of killing their targets by using pistols from close range, instead of grenades and landmines.

In this month so far, 11 civilians, including non-residents of Jammu and Kashmir, have been shot dead by terrorists in different parts of Kashmir.

"There seems to be a shift in the strategy of terrorists... earlier they would use grenades and landmines.

Then they would eliminate their targets in cars... now we are in the fourth stage where they pass close to a civilian target and kill him," he told reporters.

Azad, who met workers from various parts of Kashmir at his residence here, said the people of the Valley are against the killing of innocent civilians.

"People of Kashmir are 10 times more against these killings than people elsewhere in the country," he said.

Azad said the purpose of his interactions was to ascertain the ground situation.

"I wanted to find out from our constituency

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## Meghalaya Guv Malik's claim about me being Roshni Act beneficiary false: Mehbooba

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: PDP president

Mehbooba Mufti on Wednesday asked Meghalaya Governor Satya Pal Malik to withdraw his purported comments that the former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister was a beneficiary of now-abandoned Roshni scheme, failing which legal action will be taken against him.

"False & unsavoury utterances of Satya Pal Malik about me being a beneficiary of Roshni Act is highly mischievous. My legal team is preparing to sue him. He has the option to withdraw his comments, failing which I

will pursue legal recourse," Mehbooba said in a tweet.

Mehbooba shared a video in which Malik, who was the last Governor of Jammu and Kashmir state, is purportedly seen claiming that

National Conference leader Farooq Abdullah, his son Omar Abdullah and Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) chief Mufti has got plots of land under the Roshni scheme.

The Roshni Act was brought in by the Farooq Abdullah government with the aim of granting proprietary rights to occupants

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**WEATHER**

Temperature (Jammu)

Max: 31.7°C Min: 17.7°C

Humidity

Max: 78 Min: 58

Temperature (Srinagar)

Max: 22.7°C Min: 6.3°C

Humidity

Max: 95 Min: 62

Sunset : 17:54 Hours

Sunrise : 06:40 Hours