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2 LeT commanders...

terrorists have been neutralised in 2 weeks," IGP Kumar said in another tweet. He said Wani was involved in the killing of Saghir Ahmad, a carpenter from Uttar Pradesh's Saharanpur. "Adil Wani was District Commander Shopian of proscribed #terror outfit LeT(TRF)," Kumar tweeted.

Meanwhile, security forces foiled a terror plot by arresting a man with a live hand grenade in Kishtwar district on Wednesday, officials said.

The arrested person has been identified as Sohail Ahmed Bhat of Bathri Gando village of Doda district. He is a suspected overground worker of the LeT, they said.

During a search of vehicles and passengers, the security personnel noticed suspicious movement of one person who was trying to evade checking and frisking, sources added.

However, alert jawans immediately overpowered him and a hand grenade was recovered from his possession, they said.

78 new COVID...

maximum of 48 cases, followed by nine cases in Budgam district.

There are 800 active COVID-19 cases in the union territory, while the number of recovered patients was 3,26,070, the officials said.

The mucormycosis (black fungus) tally remained unchanged at 49 in the Union Territory as no fresh case was reported, they said.

Petrol, diesel prices...

now comes for Rs 102.89 a litre; while in Delhi, it costs Rs 94.92.

The rate hike comes after two days of no changes. Prior to that, for four straight days prices were hiked by 35 paise per litre each.

With this rise, petrol is now at Rs 100-a-litre mark or more in all state capitals while diesel has touched the level in over a dozen states. Diesel crossed the Rs 100-a-litre mark in Panaji and Ranchi.

The costliest fuel is in the border town of Ganganagar in Rajasthan where petrol comes for Rs 118.23 a litre and diesel for Rs 109.04.

Since ending of a three-week long hiatus in rate revision in the last week of September, this is the 17th increase in petrol price and the 20th time that diesel rates have gone up.

While petrol price in most of the country is already above Rs 100-a-litre mark, diesel rates have crossed that level in over a dozen states/UT including Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Kerala, Karnataka, Jharkhand, Goa and Ladakh.

Prices differ from state to state depending on the incidence of local taxes.

International benchmark Brent crude is trading at USD 84.43 per barrel on Wednesday for the first time in seven years.

A month back, Brent was trading at USD 73.92.

Being a net importer of oil, India prices petrol and diesel at rates equivalent to international prices.

The surge in international oil prices ended a three-week hiatus in rate revision on September 28 for petrol and September 24 for diesel.

Since then, diesel rate has gone up by Rs 6.50 per litre and petrol price has increased by Rs 5.

Prior to that, petrol price was increased by Rs 11.44 a litre between May 4 and July 17. Diesel rate had gone up by Rs 9.14 during this period.

AC approves 100...

ensure quality and reliable power supply to consumers. The meters will be read remotely in Data Centre at Srinagar and Data Recovery Centre at Jammu through communication channels, which will also facilitate the distribution Corporations to know the status of power supply at consumer end and also take prompt action.

Pertinently, the power distribution sector of the UT of J&K has a total consumer base of nearly 21 lakhs, out of which metered consumers are only about 50%. The poor consumer metering is the main reasons for huge AT&C losses which go 50% in Jammu and Kashmir against the national average of 22%.

LG e-inaugurates...



Lt Governor, Manoj Sinha chairing a meeting in Baramulla.

also directed the JKPPC functionaries to complete Academic and Administrative blocks of GMC Baramulla by November end.

Enquiring about the status of power augmentation works being done in the district, the Lt Governor asked the concerned to submit regular reports on the stages of project completion.

The Lt Governor directed to complete up-gradation of Amargarh, Sheeri, and Delina grid stations within given timelines to boost up the present capacity of power distribution. He also directed to maintain sufficient stock of transformers keeping in view the upcoming winter session and reducing the AT&T losses.

Explicit instructions were issued to the Power department functionaries to restore power supply during upcoming winters within 12 hours in urban and 24 hours in rural areas. "Undertake advance planning and Optimum resource allocation to ensure minimum hassle to common citizens", the Lt Governor asserted.

The Lt Governor laid specific emphasis on departments to work in close coordination and synergy to remove all bottlenecks and impediments in a time-bound manner so that the project execution is not affected in any way.

Taking serious note of delays in execution of PMGSY projects, the concerned Superintending Engineer was relieved for negligence of duties. The Lt Governor asserted that lackadaisical approach of any government official is unacceptable and urged them to perform their bonafide duties with utmost diligence.



DLSA members during an awareness camp.

STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: In connection with the Pan India Awareness and Outreach Campaign as a part of (Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav), District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Udhampur under the guidance of Chairman, DLSA Udhampur and overall supervision of Secretary DLSA Rajni Sharma (Sub-Judge) on Wednesday organized a Awareness Programme on Child Labour in Collaboration

NSS units of GDC Kathua conducts cleanliness drive

STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: In continuation to its activities under Clean India campaign and Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, NSS units of Government Degree College (GDC) Kathua on Wednesday conducted cleanliness drive in the college premises and outside the college. Volunteers collected waste material in the form of polythene and plastic and other waste from the outside of main gate, administrative block, Dream Park road and in the college premises.

Under this campaign tomorrow volunteers especially will launch this campaign in their respective areas in the form of door to door campaign and will collect polythene and single use plastic from the households and also will appeal them to say no to polythene and single use plastic. Swachhta pledge was also taken by the volunteers to devote two hours daily for Swach Bharat Campaign in future also. The event was organised under the patronage of College incharge Principal and under the supervision of NSS Programme Officer Prof Mamnoon Singh, Prof Rita Kumar Sharma and Prof Neha Bandal.

Earlier, Deputy Commissioner, Baramulla, Bhupinder Kumar through a power point presentation gave a detailed overview of the developmental activities and scheme-wise achievements under District Capex Budget, Languishing Projects, JJM, Back to Village, PWD, Power, PHE, Social welfare, and other sectors.

He also briefed the chair about the functioning of Health, Education, RDD, Youth Services, and Sports departments, besides advance snow clearance and winter preparations in view of ensuing winters.

The Lt Governor directed the district administration to identify minimum five youths from every Panchayat in order to provide them assistance for self-employment opportunities under various employment generation and entrepreneurial initiatives.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor also e-inaugurated smart kindergartens in 18 education zones of the District. He called for making determined efforts for reducing the dropout ratio of female students and further improving the female literacy rate. He also enquired about the various initiatives taken by the department for students during the last one year including community classes and other initiatives.

Later, the Lt Governor also interacted with the DDC Chairperson and members, representatives of the PRI's, ULB's and received their valuable suggestions. Representatives of the NC, PDP and BJP met the Lt Governor and presented their view on various issues of public importance.

The Lt Governor said that the UT Government is committed to strengthen the PRI's institutions. He urged them to participate proactively in the entire process of planning and execution of works in their respective areas for the equitable development of the district.

He called upon the PRI representatives to lay special focus on ensuring cleanliness in their village and wards so that Swachhta ranking of their respective areas could be among the best in the UT and the country. He also urged the elected representatives to ensure maximum reach of all social security and welfare schemes of central and UT government in their respective areas.

Delegation of Traders Federation Baramulla, Fruit Growers Association, All J&K Students Movement also met the Lt Governor and put forth various issues of public importance for which Lt Governor assured that their genuine issues will be taken up for consideration. The Lt Governor urged them to keep working for the public good.

Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary; Nitishwar Kumar, Principal Secretary to the Lt Governor; Naveen Kumar Choudhary, Principal Secretary Agriculture Production Department; Pandurang K Pole, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; Rayees Mohammad Bhat, SP Baramulla; SP Sopore besides all district and sectoral officers were present.

CBSE to allow...

which will be of short duration. No requests after the schedule will be accepted by the board for change of examination centre city," he added.

The first term board exams for class 10 will begin from November 30, while the exams for class 12 are scheduled from December 1.

Bifurcating the academic session, holding two term-end exams and rationalising the syllabus were part of the special assessment scheme for class 10 and 12 CBSE board exams for 2021-22, which were announced in July in view of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The exams will be objective and the duration of the tests will be 90 minutes. The exams will start from 11.30 am instead of 10.30 am in view of the winter season. The exams for the minor subjects will be conducted by schools, though the question paper will be provided by the board.

Massive search operation...

gunfight in nearby Thanamandi on the same day. The terrorists fled both places after the encounters.

On October 14, the terrorists struck again and killed four soldiers including a JCO in Nar Khas forest in Mendhar as the security forces extended the cordon and search operation to neutralize the fleeing terrorists.

Drones and helicopters were pressed into service to assist the marching troops, which included para-commandos, in the jungle spread over nearly 8 km X 2 km area at a distance of four km from the Line of Control, the officials said.

The entire forest belt is still under tight security cordon to neutralise the terrorists, the officials said, adding the area is mountainous and the forest is dense, making the operation difficult and dangerous.

Eight suspected persons including a mother-son duo were detained for questioning from Bhatta Durian in connection with providing logistic support to the terrorists. However, it is to be seen whether the support was given voluntarily or under duress, the officials said.

The traffic between Mendhar and Thanamandi along the Jammu-Rajouri highway remained suspended as a precautionary measure for the in the wake of the ongoing operation.

Rajouri and Poonch in Jammu region have witnessed a rise in infiltration attempts since June this year, resulting in the killing of nine terrorists in separate encounters.

Farooq Abdullah questions...

non-local labourers, were killed in targeted attacks by terrorists in different parts of the Kashmir valley this month.

Without naming the BJP or the central government, the former chief minister said the recent killings have shattered all the claims made in the aftermath of the August 5, 2019 development.

"They are talking about 'Ram Rajya' but the fact is that they do not know anything about it. In 'Ram Rajya', there is no discrimination and all the people whether Muslims, Hindus, Sikhs or Christians are treated equally," he said.

Referring to the statement of former prime minister A B Vajpayee "you can change friends but not neighbours", Abdullah said friendship between India and Pakistan holds the key to peace in the region.

However, he said the National Conference has never been a pro-Pakistan party.

"The aim of National Conference is to serve the people of all faiths without any discrimination, provide better living to them, ensure they educate their children and bring laurels to J&K and the country," he said.

"Our enemies have always conspired against us but they never succeeded in the past nor will they succeed in future. We will live and die here," the NC president said.

He also slammed the central government for price hike of essential commodities and said the rates of petrol and diesel are touching the sky, making the lives of the commoners miserable.

Ensure no safe...

in the last six-seven years, a faith has been established among people that corruption can be stopped. "In the last six-seven years, we have been able to establish a faith among people that it is possible to stop corruption in the country. People of the country have faith today that they will get benefits of government schemes without any give and take or without any middlemen, he said.

"Corruption, big or small, takes away the rights of common people. It is a hindrance in the progress of the country and affects our collective energy," he added.

Modi said the previous government lacked the will to control corruption.

"The way the earlier government functioned, it lacked the political and administrative will to fight corruption. Today, there is a political will and administrative reforms are also being carried out to achieve the goal," he said.

He said after independence, the mindset of the governments was to keep everything under their control. Those governments kept maximum control with themselves and due to it, the system witnessed many wrong practices, he said. "Maximum control, be it at home, in family or in the country, causes maximum damage, Modi said.

We started as a mission to simplify the life of people by reducing controls, we believe in minimum government and maximum governance, he said.

The prime minister listed various initiatives taken by his government to curb corruption in the last seven years by using technology and trusting people.

You all are witnessing how we used trust and technology to make people free which has stopped corruption in many ways, he said.

Modi asked officials to work to prevent corruption, instead of just focusing on ways to detect crime after a fraud takes place.

He also asked officials of the CBI and CVC to brainstorm on how to find ways to save people from cyber frauds.

Panun Kashmir, WTA...

railway station. There is no arrangement for food and water for them at the railway station or at the bus stand.

Led by Panun Kashmir chairman Ajay Chrungoo, the members of the organisation distributed food and water among the labourers at the railway station.

"The situation we faced in Kashmir 31 years ago has been repeated to drive these non-local labourers out," Chrungoo said, adding that they will continue to provide food and water to them.

The WTA has organised a community kitchen for the migrant labourers at the railway station.

Meanwhile, the teams of Government Railway Police, Jammu also extended a helping hand to the non locals who reached at Jammu Tawi Railway Station after escaping the Kashmir valley in the backdrop of target killings.

A police official said that the GRP team led by SSP Jammu Railways, Arif Rishu, flanked by Albeena Malik, SDPO Railways Jammu, Rohit Dev Jamwal, Station House Officer, Jammu and other officers visited the Railway Station and reviewed the arrangements made for the outsiders (non-local passengers arriving from the Valley).

"The SSP Railways on the spot spoke to the railway authorities and civil administration for timely support," said the official.

NIA conducts searches...

conducted today several electronic devices, incriminating jehadi documents, posters were seized," the NIA spokesman said adding that further investigation in the case continues.

Meghalaya Govt Malik's...

of state land in lieu of charges. The money thus generated was to be used for setting up hydroelectric power plants in the erstwhile state.

However, the scheme was disbanded after Jammu and Kashmir High Court declared it illegal and directed the CBI to investigate the beneficiaries of the scheme. It has emerged that proprietary rights to bulk of the state land (nearly 28,500 hectares) was given in the Jammu division, while proprietary rights were transferred to the occupants in Kashmir only on six per cent (1,700 hectares) of the land.

Terrorists using new...

workers whether terrorism has increased or decreased and whether people want statehood or not, among other issues," he said.

In August 2019, the Centre had abrogated the special status of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir and bifurcated it into Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh.

Huge cache of...

following which the Counter Intelligence wing in Amritsar was sent to the spot and a search operation was planned with the BSF authorities.

During the preliminary investigations, it has come to light that as "conceal and clear" has been the most practised modus operandi of Pakistani smugglers, this consignment was placed by them in Indian territory across the fence and it was supposed to be retrieved by their Indian associates, according to an official statement.

The DGP said a case under relevant sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, the Arms Act and the Finance Act has been registered in Amritsar.

This is not the first time when anti-national elements have tried to push such consignments through various channels across the border.

In the past too, the Counter Intelligence wing had recovered from different accused a huge cache of illegal weapons meant to disturb the peace and harmony of the state.

In June this year, a consignment of foreign-made 48 pistols was recovered in Batala.

In another operation, the Counter Intelligence wing had recovered 39 pistols from Madhya Pradesh.

DLSA Udhampur organises awareness camp on child labour</h