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02 Bovine smuggling attempts foiled, 46 cattle rescued

03 Shah inaugurates new campus of IIT Jammu

05 Why cannot 20,000 Lt per month free drinking water be a Deepawali gift to residents of J&K UT?

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Modi's personal efforts led to revocation of Article 370: Amit Shah

► 'Lashes out at three families'

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Union Home Minister Amit Shah Sunday said the "discriminatory" Article 370, which gave special status to Jammu and Kashmir, was scrapped because of personal efforts of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to fulfil the dream of Jana Sangh founder Syama Prasad Mookerjee.

In his first public rally in J&K after the August 2019 revocation of its special status, Shah said Modi restored the grassroots democracy and started a new phase of development in J&K where lakhs of people faced injustice under the garb of Article 370.

"After a long gap, I have come to meet my brothers and sisters in Jammu. I was a bit tense because of the inclement weather and was not sure of meeting you. But by the blessings of the Mata Vaishno Devi, the sun came



Union Home Minister, Amit Shah flanked by Union Minister, Dr Jitendra Singh during a public rally in Jammu.

Protect country without worry, Modi Govt will take care of your families: Shah to troops

JAMMU: Union Home Minister Amit Shah visited the International Border (IB) in Jammu on Sunday evening and lauded the bravery of soldiers guarding India's frontiers.

Shah, who is on a three-day visit to Jammu and Kashmir, interacted with BSF jawans and said they should protect the country without any worry as the government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi will take care of their families.

The Home Minister also visited the last border hamlet of Makwal and told residents that the Modi government is committed to providing every facility and ensuring development in the border areas. Shah, along

with his family, "out and we came together," the home minister said at a public rally here.

Heavy rains on Saturday had cast a shadow over Shah's scheduled public meeting. However, an improvement in the weather allowed the rally to go through and it was attended by thousands of people who raised high pitch pro-BJP slogans.

"Today is the birth

Kashmir snowfall: 2 killed in Anantnag, death toll climbs to 5

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Two people died while many were rescued after they were trapped in snowfall in Anantnag district, officials said on Sunday, taking the death toll due to inclement weather to five.

Last night, stranded persons at Sinthan Pass in south Kashmir district were rescued, they said.

The rescue team of civil, police army and State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) officials traversed 30 km through snow-covered and foggy terrain, aided by machinery and walked

Amit Shah sets an example; visits Chowkidar's house

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Even in his wildest dreams he would not have thought the caller at his home would be Home Minister of India—that too none other than Amit Shah, a person perceived to be next iron man after Sardar Patel.

Amit Shah made it a day for Chuni Lal, who is Chowkidar at Jammu residence of the former Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha and a tall leader of J&K Congress Ghulam Nabi Azad.

The visit of the Home Minister to Chuni Lal's house at Makwal village in Jammu district on Indo-Pak border carried a message



Home Minister Amit Shah at Chowkidar Chuni Lal's house in Makwal village.

that he was concerned about common people, irrespective of party affiliations. He could have chosen the house of any B-JP worker but he drove to the house of Chuni Lal.

Civilian killed in cross-firing in Kashmir

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: A civilian was killed in cross-firing after terrorists attacked CRPF personnel in Shopian district on Sunday, police said.

The incident evoked strong reactions from mainstream political parties in the Valley, which demanded a probe into it.

The civilian killed has been identified as Shahid Ahmad.

Around 1030 hrs, unidentified terrorists attacked a naka party of 178 Bn CRPF at Babapora, Shopian,

Medium intensity earthquake hits Ladakh

STATE TIMES NEWS
LEH: A medium intensity earthquake of magnitude 4.2 hit Ladakh on Sunday, the National Centre for Seismology said.

The tremor occurred at 11.29 am at a depth of 140 kilometres in the Kargil belt of the union territory, it said.

Officials said there were no reports of any damage.

The Himalayan region is prone to earthquakes.

Govt doesn't believe in buying peace in J&K: LG

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Sunday warned those who incite people to trigger violence, saying the government does not believe in "buying peace" but is firm on ensuring peace on the ground.

Sinha made these remarks at a public rally with Union Home Minister Amit Shah who is on his first visit to Jammu and Kashmir after the repeal of Article 370 in August 2019.

Sinha said Kashmiri migrants faced "grave problems" and his administration launched an online portal to



address them. "We received 6,000 complaints and out of which 2,000 have been resolved and rest will be resolved too."

He said some people are making "unholy attempts to

incite emotions among of the people of Kashmir to trigger violence".

"I want to tell them that they should know whose government is there in Delhi and who India's home minister is," he said, warning the trouble-mongers, "The government does not believe in buying peace, but it believes in firm implementation of peace on the ground in J&K."

The LG said the government will defend peace and ensure the life of people in Jammu and Kashmir is safeguarded.

"We want to assure you

Jammu-Srinagar highway reopens after 30 hours

STATE TIMES NEWS
BANIHAL/JAMMU: The 270-km Jammu-Srinagar national highway reopened on Sunday after remaining closed for over 30 hours due to landslides and shooting stones triggered by heavy rains, officials said.

Over 500 stranded vehicles, mostly trucks, have been cleared from Jammu to Srinagar after the road was cleared of the debris. Dozens of stranded trucks were also allowed

to move from Kashmir to Jammu, Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP), Traffic, Shabir Ahmad Malik told PTI.

The highway was closed early Saturday after a massive landslide blocked the highway, the only all weather road linking Kashmir with the rest of the country, near Cafetaria Morh besides shooting stones from the hillocks overlooking the arterial road between Maroog and Ramsu

Petrol, diesel prices hiked for 5th straight day

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: Petrol and diesel prices on Sunday were hiked for the fifth straight day by 35 paise per litre each, pushing pump rates to new high across the country.

The price of petrol in Delhi rose to its highest-ever level of Rs 107.59 a litre and Rs 113.46 per litre in Mumbai, according to a price notification of state-owned fuel retailers.

In Mumbai, diesel now comes for Rs 104.38 a litre, while in Delhi, it costs Rs 96.32 per litre.

This is the fifth consecutive day of the price hike. There was no change in rates on October 18 and 19, prior to which prices were hiked by 35 paise per litre each on four straight days.

While petrol has already hit the Rs 100-a-litre mark or more in all major cities of the country, diesel has touched that level in over one-and-a-half dozen

Top Army commanders to review India's security challenges, situation along LAC

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: Top commanders of the Indian Army will carry out an extensive review of the country's security challenges, including in eastern Ladakh as well as other sensitive areas along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) with China, at a four-day conference beginning Monday, people familiar with the development said.

The commanders will also deliberate on the security scenario in Jammu and Kashmir in the backdrop of a spate of civilian killings in the Union Territory in the last few weeks, they added.

The conference will take place in Delhi.

The people cited above said Chief of Army Staff General MM Naravane and the top commanders will review the country's combat readiness in eastern Ladakh where Indian and Chinese troops have been locked in a bitter standoff for 17 months, though the two sides have completed disengagement at a number of friction points.

They said the Army commanders are also likely to discuss the possible impact of the Taliban's takeover of Afghanistan on the security of India and the region.

72 fresh COVID cases reported in J&K

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir on Sunday reported 72 new COVID cases, 10 from Jammu division and 62 from Kashmir division, thus taking the total number of positive cases in Jammu and Kashmir to 331638.

Moreover, 68 more COVID patients have recovered and been discharged from various hospitals including 11 from Jammu Division and 57 from Kashmir Division.

No new case of Mucormycosis has been reported today, thus the total number of confirmed cases remains 49 here.

According to the

Poonch counter-insurgency ops: Arrested Pak terrorist killed, 3 security personnel injured

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: An arrested Pakistani terrorist was killed, while three security personnel were injured on Sunday when terrorists opened fire on a joint search party of the Army and police inside a forest in Poonch district, officials said.

Heavy firing and explosions were reported from Bhatta Durrian forest of Mendhar which along with nearby forest areas adjoining Surankote (Poonch) and Thanamandi in Rajouri district is witnessing a massive search operation, the officials said.

The operation, which saw nine Army personnel losing their lives in separate ambushes in Surankote and Mendhar on October 11 and 14, entered the 14th day on Sunday.

A police spokesperson said two policemen and an Army jawan along with a prisoner Zia Mustafa, a Pakistani terrorist affiliated with the Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) were injured in firing by terrorists in Bhatta Durrian forest this morning.

Detenue Mustafa was taken to Bhatadurian for identification of terrorist hideout during the ongoing

Satya Pal Malik's corruption charges: Won't ask why or why but now?

ANCHOR
DOST KHAN

Former Jammu and Kashmir Governor, now holding the gubernatorial post in Meghalaya, has leveled very serious allegations about a renowned corporate and some RSS affiliated leader of the then State. For doing a favour, he says he was offered Rs 300 crore. The charges against the corporate are no more secret as during his tenure here Malik had scrapped the deal to provide insurance cover to employees, pensioners and journo. Day after scrapping the health insurance contract with the Reliance General Insurance Company on October 25, 2018, Malik had asserted those involved in the 'dubious' deal will be punished, which, however didn't happen till he relinquished as the last Governor of the united J&K (Ladakh included) on October 24, 2019 when the State was bifurcated into two Union Territories in accordance with J&K Reorganization Act 2019. We won't ask why. We won't ask who the RSS

affiliated leader was whose file had not been pushed through by Satya Pal Malik.

Malik was an honest and upright Governor, who took the lid from the can of worms by exposing the beneficiaries of Roshni Act and thereby scrapping it too. He was instrumental in taking cognizance of the reports about the affairs of Jammu and Kashmir Bank Limited and so on. He has now come up with serious charges about two former chief ministers of Jammu and Kashmir, who have rebounded back with one of them sending a legal notice, seeking Rs 10 crore compensation, on the plea that charges were total lies. We will not ask why Malik came up with these allegations now.

The former Governor has ventured into the sensitive security issue in Jammu and Kashmir as well, saying during his tenure terrorists didn't dare to enter within 50-100 kilometers range of Srinagar. The claim is debatable because the terror graph has been fluctuating ever since its inception in 1990. At times strike rate by terrorists remains alarming but most of the times they get eliminated due to robust security grid.

Last but not the least, Satya Pal Malik has entered into another contentious arena related to the ongoing farmers' stir, seeking revocation of three farm laws enacted by the Narendra Modi government after due passage in both the Houses of Parliament. Malik has subtly threatened of quitting his post if the farmers' agitation continues. He says he will quit as Governor if need be, in case the issues of farmers are not resolved. In that event, he says he will join the agitation of Kissans in support of their demands. He goes on cautioning that if the demands of the farmers are not met, then the BJP government will not return to power. He said the BJP cannot even enter several villages in election bound Uttar Pradesh as a fall out of the farmers' agitation.

Of late, Satya Pal Malik, famous for generating controversies, has become pro-active and very vocal. We won't ask should a Governor enter into political foray and openly support an agitation while holding a constitutional position as representative of the President of India, who has given assent to the farm laws after their passage in Lok

Sabha and Rajya Sabha.

The timing of allegations on corrupt practices in Jammu and Kashmir and comments on the ongoing farmers' agitation raise several questions as to what has made Satya Pal Malik to voice his views quite vociferously. Is it because he is still feeling a sense of hurt for being shifted unceremoniously to Goa and then to Meghalaya? In any case, his gubernatorial term will end soon and, therefore, the observations on relinquishing as 'Governor' are of little consequence.

Malik is an interesting subject for anyone studying Indian politics and politicians. The crux of his latest moves ostensibly indicate his ambitions of returning to active politics after bidding adieu to gubernatorial assignments. The timing cannot be more favourable and appropriate than now when the Indian political landscape is in 'agitational' mode, the biggest one being spearheaded by the farmers, who are being defined as 'Amndatas' by what Narendra Modi terms, 'Andoolan Jeevies'.

While sticking on not to ask 'why', even a layman's assessment

Farooq expresses surprise over Shah's comment on restoration of J&K statehood

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: National Conference chief Farooq Abdullah on Sunday expressed surprise over Union Home Minister Amit Shah's statement that Jammu and Kashmir's statehood would be restored after assembly elections.

He said urges and aspirations of people have to be satiated for lasting peace in the Union territory.

Abdullah expressed surprise over the logic being advanced by the central leadership that the statehood will be restored after completion of the delimitation of constituencies and holding of elections.

It is strange, he said and recalled the all-party

WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 22.7°C Min: 16.3°C

Humidity
Max: 85 Min: 66

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 10.0°C Min: 2.8°C

Humidity
Max: 91 Min: 74

Sunset: 17:50 Hours
Sunrise: 06:43 Hours