

03 Present dispensation ignored reserved categories: Tara Chand

10 33rd Junior Volleyball Championship 2021 concludes: GDC Kathua wins girls trophy, Rising Star Club boys title

11 2 years old girl among 4 killed, 17 injured in separate mishaps

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

LG meets protesting nursing staff; extends their contract for 3 months

‘COVID Warriors to be given weightage in recruitment’

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU/SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Sunday met the protesting nursing staff whose contract had expired and extended their engagement for another three months. He met the health workers separately at Government Medical College, Jammu and Raj Bhawan, Srinagar.

The Lt Governor assured the health workers engaged on contract that new positions of paramedical staff would be identified and advertised soon.

The Lt Governor said that Corona Warriors will be given weightage in the recruitment process.

"We are indebted to health workers who have been on the forefront in the fight against Covid pandemic. They always go much beyond their call of duty to save precious human lives. I salute



LG Manoj Sinha interacting with protesting health workers at GMC Jammu.

their courage and selfless service', added the Lt Governor.

The Lt Governor during the meeting at Raj Bhawan, Srinagar, told the senior officials that vacant nursing staff position in the UT should be identified as soon as possible and recruitment process should be initiated to benefit the health workers.

"Our health workers worked tirelessly and they deserve high praise," Lt

Health Services Kashmir; Choudhary Mohammad Yasin, Mission Director NHM were present in the meeting at Srinagar.

Meanwhile, contractual National Health Mission (NHM) employees have called off their protest after Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha met them.

Over 1,500 employees were demonstrating for the last four days against termination of their contracts.

"On my arrival in Jammu on Saturday, we took two important decisions (with regard to NHM contractual employees)...they will be given three months extension and they will also be given weightage in the recruitment process for various posts in the health department," Sinha told reporters.

"The visit of the Lieutenant Governor means a lot for us and we are thankful to him.

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

World's largest tricolour in Khadi at Leh unique tribute to Gandhi: PM

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The display of the world's largest tricolour in Khadi at Leh is a "unique tribute" to Mahatma Gandhi, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Sunday and urged people to make the fabric and handicraft products a part of their lives.

Modi was reacting to the Khadi and Village Industries Commission's tweet

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Devender Rana likely to resign as NC Provincial President

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: National Conference Provincial President Devender Singh Rana is likely to resign from National Conference.

Devender Rana had taken over as Provincial President of the party in 2011, after relinquishing his office as Political Advisor to Chief Minister Omar Abdullah. He has remained as Provincial President for over a decade.

Cross-LoC trade case: NIA conducts searches at multiple locations in Poonch

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Sunday conducted searches at nine locations in Poonch district in connection with a five-year-old case related to misuse of money generated from cross-LoC trade for fomenting terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir, officials said.

The raids were carried out with the assistance of the Jammu and Kashmir Police, Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) in the case registered by the NIA on December 9, 2016, under section 17 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, a spokesperson of the NIA said.

On April 18, 2019, India indefinitely suspended cross-LoC trade at two points along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir, following reports that it was being "misused"



by elements from across the border to smuggle weapons, narcotics and fake currency.

The LoC trade across Chakan-Da-Bagh in Poonch district of Jammu region and Salamabad in Baramulla district of north Kashmir was intended as a confidence-building measure (CBM) for the population living in Jammu and Kashmir and across the LoC in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK).

"LoC trade was started in the year 2008 as part of confidence-building measure between J-K and PoK. The trade was based on barter

system and third party origin goods were not allowed. The instant case is related to the large scale transfer of funds from Pakistan to India through the import of California almonds and other items via the cross LoC Trade Facilitation Centres (TFCs) located at Salamabad and Chakkan-Da-Bag," the NIA said.

The spokesperson said these funds were purportedly being used for fomenting terrorism and separatism in Jammu and Kashmir.

"Investigation into the

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Arms consignment dropped by Pakistani drone recovered in Jammu



■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: An arms consignment believed to have been dropped by a drone from Pakistan has been recovered by police near the International Border here, officials said on Sunday.

The recovery made from the dropped packet included an AK assault rifle, three magazines, 30 rounds and a telescope, the officials said.

They said the recovery was made from Soujanya

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Ladakh Admn to use drones to help measuring inhabitant land under SVAMITVA scheme

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

LEH: The Ladakh administration will use drones to help measure 'Abadi Deh' (inhabited land) under the SVAMITVA scheme, an official spokesman said on Sunday.

Principal Secretary (Revenue) Pawan Kotwal on Sunday inaugurated the first test drone flight conducted by the Survey of India

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Civilian injured in Srinagar terror attack succumbs

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: A civilian, who was shot at by terrorists in Batamalo area of the city here, succumbed to injuries, officials said on Sunday.

Terrorists shot at and injured Mohammad Shafi Dar, resident of Batamalo at about 8 pm at SD Colony Batamalo on Saturday. Dar (45) received critical

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)

Max: 32.0°C Min: 23.1°C

Humidity

Max: 77 Min: 66

Temperature (Srinagar)

Max: 25.0°C Min: 14.2°C

Humidity

Max: 83 Min: 54

Sunset : 18:14 Hours

Sunrise : 06:29 Hours

Night curfew to continue, no weekend restrictions in J&K

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Night curfew to continue and the limit for indoor and outdoor activities also remain 25 persons in the Jammu and Kashmir, where authorities have already reopened educational institutions with limited in person teaching subject to 100 per cent vaccination.

An official spokesman said that in case of the positive rate is below 0.2 and weekly case load below 250, gathering shall be permitted upto 25 per cent of the authorized capacity, preferably in open spaces, for vaccinated persons with verifiable RTPCR or RAT not older than 72 hours.

COVID: 102 new cases in J&K, 3 in Ladakh

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir recorded 102 fresh COVID-19 cases on Sunday that took the infection tally to 3,29,789, officials said.

No Covid-related death was reported in the past 24 hours, they said.

Of the fresh cases, 21 were from Jammu division and 81 from Kashmir division, the officials said.

Srinagar district recorded the highest 53 cases followed by 11 cases in Budgam.

There are 1,201 active cases in the Union Territory, while the number those who have recovered from the infection has reached 3,24,164, officials said.

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

He said this Sunday evening that a detailed review of current COVID-19 situation in Jammu and Kashmir was held by Chief Secretary, who is chairperson of State Executive

Committee (SEC). Senior officers besides Divisional Commissioners of Kashmir and Jammu and Deputy Commissioners (DCs) participated in the meeting.

He said review was con-

ducted to assess overall situation pertaining to the spread of COVID-19 in the Jammu and Kashmir, particularly focusing on total weekly new cases, total positivity rate, bed occupancy, case fatality rate, vaccination coverage of total targeted population and extent of compliance of Covid Appropriate Behaviour (CAB).

He said it was observed that there is need to continue with the existing COVID containment measures in all districts in view of the uneven trend observed daily COVID cases.

It was decided that the maximum number of

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Army recovers 30 Kg of 'drug-like' substance along LoC in Uri



Drugs seized by security forces in Uri sector.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The Army has recovered around 30 kg of a contraband substance worth about Rs 25 crore in the black market along the Line of Control (LoC) in Uri sec-

tor, police said on Sunday.

"On Saturday, alert Indian troops deployed along the LoC in Uri sector in Baramulla district of north Kashmir observed some

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Efforts to be made to strengthen self-help groups in J&K: Giriraj Singh



Union Minister for Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Giriraj Singh addressing a public gathering at Kathua.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Union Minister for Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Giriraj Singh on Sunday said efforts would

be made to further strengthen self-help groups in Jammu and Kashmir.

He also said the three-tier Panchayati Raj system in the

Union Territory would give much needed fillip to the developmental pace as per the popular aspiration of people through their elected Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRI) representatives.

"Efforts shall be made to further strengthen self-help groups for which better marketing channels will be utilised to strengthen women empowerment efforts in Jammu and Kashmir," the minister said.

Singh, who visited Government Degree College Billawar in Kathua district under the ongoing

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Petrol, diesel at all-time high

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Petrol and diesel prices were hiked again on Sunday to send rates soaring to new record highs across the country but top government officials insisted oil companies haven't passed on the entire increase warranted from international oil and gas rising to three-year highs and have ensured UK-like situation of pumps going dry isn't seen anywhere in India.

Petrol price for the third straight day hiked by 25 paise a litre and diesel by 30 paise, according to a price notification of state-owned fuel retailers.

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

NCB busts drugs party onboard cruise ship, Shah Rukh Khan's son Aryan Khan among 8 arrested

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

MUMBAI: The Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) busted a drugs party onboard a cruise ship off the Mumbai coast and arrested Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan's son Aryan Khan and seven others, including two women, on Sunday, officials said.

The NCB team, led by its zonal director Sameer Wankhede, raided the Goa-bound ship on Saturday evening based on a tip-off that a party was scheduled onboard. The sleuths seized 13 grams of cocaine, five grams of MD, 21 grams of charas and 22 pills of

Ecstasy and Rs 1.33 lakh.

A special holiday court of additional metropolitan magistrate R K Rajebhosale on Sunday remanded Aryan Khan, Munmun Dhamecha and Arbaaz Merchant to the custody of the NCB till October 4.

The NCB on Sunday said it had evidence suggesting a nexus between three persons it had arrested, including Aryan Khan, and suppliers and peddlers of drugs and banned narcotic substances regularly.

Prima facie investigation conducted by the NCB reveals that there is incrimi-

nating material in the form of WhatsApp chats and so on that clearly shows the nexus with the arrested accused (Aryan Khan and two others) with suppliers and peddlers on a regular basis, the NCB said in its remand note.

Aryan Khan and seven others were detained late Saturday night by NCB sleuths after they raided the cruise ship on its way from Mumbai to Goa.

"During the raid, over 20 officials of the Mumbai NCB boarded the ship posing as customers. There were 1,800 people on the ship but

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Traffic at Jammu airport jumps after scrapping of load penalty

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Passenger traffic at the Jammu airport jumped soon after the load penalty for the strategically important airport was scrapped, allowing airlines to fly full capacity, officials said.

The airport saw 1,403 embarkations (departures) and 1,679 disembarkation (arrivals) on September 29. On September 30, when the penalty was scrapped, the number of departures jumped to 1,524 and disembarkations to 2,140, officials aware of the matter said. On October 1, traffic further increased to 1,953 embarkations and 2,748 disembarkations, they said.

Prior to the September 30 move, there was a 30 per

cent load penalty, which meant that airlines could book only 70 per cent of the seats available on a flight.

The Indian Air Force, which controls the Jammu airport, on September 30 issued a NOTAM (notice to airmen) that led to the removal of the 30 per cent load penalty on the airport, officials said.

This meant airlines could fly full loads or at 100 per cent capacity, they said, adding this should lead to lower fares and longer destinations.

Currently, Jammu airport handles 35 flights from different cities on a daily basis.

The load restriction meant that airlines either incur a loss on flying to Jammu

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9



RSS Chief Mohan Bhagwat addressing Swayamsevaks through online mode from J&K RSS headquarters at Amphalla.

work across the globe.

He emphasised personality building, organization setup, nation-building, and challenges before the nation.

Dr. Mohan Bhagwat said that in the year 2025, the RSS is going to complete 100 years of its formation and there is a need to accelerate activities of the RSS to mark its centenary celebrations.

He said that the target of the

Swayamsevaks should be to reach every household when it will celebrate its centenary four years later.

The Sarsanghchalak exhorted Swayamsevaks to work hard in order to ensure that when the organisation will turn 100 in 2025, the Swayamsevaks should reach every household with extension of Shakhshas in all villages.

He advised the Swayamsevaks how

their conduct should be and how their lives should be devoted to nation-building.

"We are doing the same work for the last 96 years. We have to do it with more zeal and enthusiasm without diverting our attention", he called upon the workers.

Emphasizing the need of strengthening the organization, he said that real unity is the real strength.

"Our strength will be realized only through our unity. We have to remain united", he said.

He narrated examples of the founder of RSS Dr Hedgewar during the early days of Sangh in Nagpur.

The Sarsanghchalak said that we have to keep in mind that we have to organize the whole Hindu society and Hindu society that can make India a Vishwa Guru.

"India should be at the forefront in every field of the world and we should also be in a position to lead the whole world, we have

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9