

03 Dr Jitendra launches state-of-art Helicopter-borne Survey technology

Prominent KP pharmacy owner, 2 other civilians shot dead by terrorists in Kashmir within hours

LG, Omar, Sajad Lone condemn killings

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Three civilians including Makhani Lal Bindroo, a Kashmiri Pandit and the owner of Srinagar's most famous pharmacy, were shot dead by suspected terrorists in separate incidents here and in Bandipora districts on Tuesday.

The 68-year-old Bindroo, who ran Bindroo Medicate, was shot at by the assailants point blank at his pharmacy, a police official said, adding he was rushed to a hospital where he was declared brought dead.

A Kashmiri Pandit, Bindroo, was one of the few from the community who did not migrate out at the onset of militancy in 1990.

He stayed back along with his wife to continue operating his business which grew to become a trusted name in the city for quality medicines.

Within an hour, terrorists struck at Hawal area of the

city, killing a non-local street vendor, an official said.

Virender, who used to sell bhelpur, was also shot at point blank and died on the spot, he said, adding further details were being ascertained.

Within minutes of the second killing, terrorists shot dead Mohammad Shafi Lone at Naidkhai in Bandipora district, the officials said.

They said Lone was president of the local taxi stand.

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha condemned the killing of three civilians by terrorists in separate incidents in the Valley, vowing to bring the perpetrators to justice soon.

"Deeply anguished to hear about the terror attack on Shri Makhani Lal Bindroo, owner of Bindroo Medicate. I strongly condemn this cowardly act. My deepest condolences to the bereaved family. Perpetrators of this heinous act will be brought to justice

very soon," Sinha tweeted soon after the first killing.

"I strongly condemn the killing of civilians Virender Paswan and Mohd Shafi Lone by terrorists," he said about the second killing.

The Lieutenant Governor said the barbaric act of killing innocent people is against humanity.

"Terrorists will never succeed in their nefarious designs, and those responsible for such heinous acts shall be brought to justice. My heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families in this hour of grief," he added.

Bindroo's killing was widely condemned, with BJP spokesman Altaf Shakur describing the deceased as pro-poor.

Shakur strongly condemned the killing, saying Bindroo was a helpful and sober person who always cared for poor.

"Those behind the

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

03 Court frames corruption charges against Patwari & others

Baseer Khan removed as Advisor to LG

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The government on Tuesday relieved Baseer Ahmad Khan of the charge of advisor to the Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor with immediate effect.

According to an order issued by the Jammu and Kashmir General Administration Department, Khan, a retired IAS officer of 2000 batch, was relieved of the charge, following a communication from the Union

Ministry of Home Affairs. His removal from the post came all of a sudden and the reasons behind it were not immediately known.

Khan was made an Advisor in March last year when G C Murmu was the Lt Governor, and he continued in the post under Murmu's successor Manoj Sinha. Prior to his appointment as an Advisor, Khan was the Divisional Commissioner of Kashmir.



Three DIGs transferred

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: J&K Home Department on Tuesday ordered transfer and posting of three DIGs in Jammu and Kashmir.

As per an order, consequent upon relieving of Amit Kumar as DIG central Kashmir range on Central Deputation, the transfers and postings of three DIGs were ordered with immediate effect. Sunil Gupta, awaiting orders of posting has been posted as DIG, Doda-Kishtwar-Ramban Range.

"Sujit Kumar, DIG, North Kashmir Range is transferred and posted as DIG, Central Kashmir Range and Udaybhaskar Billa, DIG Doda-Kishtwar-Ramban Range has been transferred and posted as DIG, North Kashmir Range," reads the order.

ACB files chargesheet against revenue official in bribery case in Kathua

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Tuesday filed a chargesheet against a revenue official who was caught accepting a bribe in Kathua district last year, an official said.

The chargesheet was filed against the then patwari of the Bhaddu area of Billawar, Romesh Chander, before the Additional Sessions judge, anti-corruption, Kathua, for judicial determination, a spokesman of the ACB said.

He said the ACB filed the chargesheet after

completion of the investigation and obtaining prosecution sanction against the accused public servant.

The next date of hearing in the case has been fixed on November 17, the spokesman said.

He said the accused patwari was caught in the presence of independent witnesses while demanding and accepting a bribe amount of Rs 10,000 from complainant Hukum Chand, a resident of Beral village, on January 16 last year for the issuance of 'fard intikhab' (revenue extract).

Petrol, diesel prices surge to record-high levels

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Petrol and diesel prices on Tuesday surged to all-time high levels as rates were increased again after international oil prices hit the highest mark since 2014.

Petrol price was hiked by 25 paise a litre and diesel by 30 paise, according to a price notification of state-owned fuel retailers.

This sent the petrol price in Delhi to its highest-ever level of Rs 102.64 a litre and to Rs 108.67 in Mumbai. Diesel rates too touched a record high of Rs 91.07 in Delhi and Rs 98.80 in Mumbai.

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

The sixth increase in fuel rates in a week's time has sent petrol prices above Rs 100 in most major cities of the country.

Similarly, the ninth increase in prices in less than two weeks has shot up

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)

Max: 34.0°C Min: 21.5°C

Humidity

Max : 71 Min : 59

Temperature (Srinagar)

Max: 25.0°C Min: 12.0°C

Humidity

Max : 73 Min: 54

Sunset : 18:12 Hours

Sunrise : 06:29 Hours

J&K records 102 fresh COVID cases, no new death

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Tuesday recorded 102 fresh coronavirus cases, taking the total number of infected people to 3,29,991, while no fresh death was reported, officials said.

Out of the 102 fresh cases, 23 were from the Jammu division and 79 from the Kashmir division, the officials said.

They said Srinagar district recorded the highest number of 41 cases, followed by nine in Baramulla district.

There are 1,074 active cases in the union territory, while the number of recovered patients was 3,24,493, the officials said.

The death toll in the union

Over 92 Cr vaccine doses administered in India so far

NEW DELHI: The cumulative COVID-19 vaccine doses administered in the country crossed 92 crore on Tuesday, the Union Health Ministry said.

Over 54 lakh vaccine doses have been administered on Tuesday till 7 pm and the tally is expected to increase with the compilation of the final reports by late in the night, it said.

The vaccination exercise as a tool to protect the most vulnerable population groups in the country from COVID-19 continues to be regularly reviewed and monitored at the highest level, the ministry underlined.

The countrywide vaccination drive was rolled out on January 16 with healthcare workers getting inoculated in the first phase. Vaccination of frontline workers started on February 2. The next phase of

territory remained at 4,424 as no fresh death was reported in a 24-hour span.

The officials said, there were

46 confirmed cases of Mucormycosis (black fungus) in the union territory as no fresh case was reported since

of Rs 1,500; while in the case of medium goods or passenger motor vehicle, it would cost Rs 10,000.

Renewal of registration for imported bikes and cars will cost Rs 10,000 and Rs 40,000, respectively.

According to the notification, these rules may be called the Central Motor Vehicles (23rd Amendment) Rules, 2021, and shall come into force with effect from April 1, 2022.

The notification said an additional fee of Rs 50 for each day of delay after the expiry of certificate of fitness shall be levied.

It also said an additional fee of Rs 200 shall be levied if the certificate of registration is a smart card-type issue.

As per the notification, in case of delay in applying for renewal of certificate of registration, an additional fee of Rs 300 for delay of every month in case of private vehicles and Rs 500 for delay of every month in case of commercial vehicles shall be levied.

Under the the National Automobile Scrapage Policy launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in August this year, mandatory

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

10 Home Minister Amit Shah likely to visit J&K this month

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Union Home Minister Amit Shah is likely to visit Jammu and Kashmir later this month as part of the central government's mega outreach programme, officials said on Tuesday.

Shah will visit both regions of the Union Territory -- Kashmir and Jammu -- and the tour may take place from October 23 to 25.

The home minister is likely to visit Jammu and Kashmir this month as part of the government's mega outreach programme under which 70 Union ministers are visiting the UT, an official from the ministry said.

During his trip, Shah will visit remote areas of the Kashmir Valley and the Jammu region, and take stock of various development initiatives.

The home minister also may attend a high-level law and order meeting with senior officials of the UT administration, the police, the paramili-



tary and the army, another official said.

A number of central ministers have already visited the UT while tours of several others are in the pipeline.

The nine-week long Public Outreach Programme II on Jammu and Kashmir had been finalized in the mid July with a list of 70 Union ministers cleared to visit all the districts of the Union Territory to interact with the people and administration and representatives of Panchayat Raj and District Development Councils (DDC) in the Union

Body of one of the 19 missing cloudburst victims recovered in Kishtwar

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Body of one of the 19 missing cloudburst victims was recovered from a stream in Jammu and Kashmir's Kishtwar on Tuesday, over two months after the natural calamity hit a remote village in the hilly district, officials said.

The decomposed body was recovered from downstream Donagrari, one kilometre from Honzar village of Dacchan tehsil which was devastated by flash floods triggered by the cloudburst during the intervening night of July 27 and 28, the officials said. Seven persons were found dead and 17 others rescued in an injured condition

Procurement of 114 fighter aircrafts would be under Make in India initiative: IAF Chief



■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhary on Tuesday said the Indian Air Force (IAF) is taking forward the proposed procure-

ment of 114 Multi-Role Fighter Aircraft (MRFA) and that it would be carried out under the Make in India initiative.

In April 2019, the IAF

by rescuers who continued the search for 19 other missing residents for over a month before calling off the operation. At least 21 houses and as many cow sheds besides a ration depot, a bridge and a mosque were damaged in the incident.

The officials said the body recovered from the stream was later identified as that of Bashir Ahmad (45) who was one of the 19 persons reported missing after the cloudburst. Ahmad was an employee of the Wildlife Department and his body was handed over to the next of his kin for last rites after the completion of legal formalities, the officials said.

Govt hikes rates of procedures under Ayushman Bharat, black fungus management added under scheme

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The government has revised the rates of around 400 procedures under the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY) and added a new medical package related to black fungus management, moves that "will strengthen the empanelled hospitals to provide better healthcare services".

In the revised Health Benefit Package (HBP 2.2), the National Health Authority (NHA) which implements the AB PM-JAY scheme has raised the rates of packages by 20 per cent to 400 per cent.

Under medical management procedures, the rates for ICU with ventilator support has been revised by 100

per cent and without ventilator by 136 per cent, while the rates for HDU (High Dependency Unit) has been revised by 22 per cent and the prices for routine ward has been revised by 17 per cent, it said.

"In the revised version of Health Benefit Package (HBP 2.2), rates of some health packages have been increased by 20 percent to 400 per cent under PM-JAY. Around 400 procedure rates have been revised and one new additional medical management package related to black fungus has also been added," the ministry said.

Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya said, "I am glad that the revised version of Health

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Drug peddler held with 2.3 Kg cannabis

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: Police arrested an alleged drug peddler with over two kg of cannabis in Rajouri district on Tuesday, officials said.

As per the details, a party of Police Station Thanamandi while on Naka checking duty at Thanamandi stopped one Tata Mobile (JK 11F-0644) for checking. On search, around 02 Kg and 300 gm of Charas like substance was recovered from the possession of one person named Munawar Hussain, son of Noor Hussain, resident of Choudhary Nar, Rajouri. The accused was arrested and FIR No. 209/2021 under sections 8/20/21 of the NDPS Act was registered against him at Police Station Thanamandi.