

02 Mother-daughter charred to death in 'mysterious' fire

03 As head of Govt, Modi created new benchmarks: Dr Jitendra

10 LG felicitates Dr Rahul, Dr Yash Pal among 50 COVID warriors

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Terrorists gun down principal, teacher in Srinagar school; seven civilians killed in five days



Bereaved family members of a deceased wailing in Jammu.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: A woman principal and a teacher were shot dead at point blank range inside a government school in the heart of the city on Thursday, taking to seven the number of civilians killed by terrorists in Kashmir Valley in five days.

Of the seven, four were

from minority communities and six of the deaths took place in Srinagar, the main urban centre of the Valley.

Supinder Kaur, the principal of the Government Boys Higher Secondary School in Eidgah in downtown Srinagar, and Deepak Chand, were gunned down around 11.15 am just when

Will give befitting reply, says LG

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha condemned the killing of two teachers belonging to minority communities on Thursday, saying a befitting reply will be given to the perpetrators of the terror attack.

He said the terrorists and their patrons will not succeed in disturbing peace in the Union Territory.

"I strongly condemn the barbaric killing of two of our teachers, Supinder Kaur and Deepak Chand by terrorists. A befitting reply will be given to the perpetrators of the heinous terror attacks on innocent people," Sinha wrote on Twitter.

"The terrorists & their patrons will not succeed in disturbing peace, progress & prosperity of

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school had settled down to another day of online classes. There were no students in school.

As news of the deaths spread and a kind of fear settled over the city and parts of the Valley, Jammu and Kashmir Director General of Police Dilbag Singh said the targeted killing of civilians, particularly minorities, in Kashmir is aimed at creating

an atmosphere of fear and damaging age-old communal harmony.

"Darindigi, vaishat aur daishat ka mel (This is about barbarism and terror)," Singh told reporters at the school, a sprawling complex of vast grounds and three single-storey buildings but no CCTV.

Those who are targeting humanity, brotherhood and

'Targeted killings' in J&K highlight concern over cross-border terrorism: MEA

NEW DELHI: Condemning "targeted killings" of innocent people in Jammu and Kashmir, the external affairs ministry on Thursday said these killings highlighted its concerns over cross-border terrorism.

"We strongly condemn it. Innocent people are being killed. It is targeted killing. We are worried about cross border terrorism. We keep discussing the issue of cross border terrorism with our partners," External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said at a media briefing.

Jammu and Kashmir has witnessed a number of killings of civilians in the last few days.

local ethos and values will be unmasked soon, Singh said. He described the back-to-back attacks as an attempt to defame the Muslim community of Kashmir and alleged that terrorists are "acting on the directions of Pakistan" to put hurdles in the way of peace in the Valley.

"We regret the back-to-back attacks in which civilians have been killed. We are

working on the previous cases and the Srinagar police has got many clues and we will soon get the people behind such terror and barbaric attacks... I am sure the police will be able to unmask them soon, he said.

Asserting that the attacks were an attempt to defame the Muslim community of Kashmir, Singh said that the terrorists are "acting on the

directions of Pakistan" to put hurdles in the way of peace in the valley.

Terrorists are terrorists and they are acting on the directions of the agencies across (the border) in Pakistan so that Kashmir is kept disturbed and hurdles are put in the way of peace in Kashmir. I am hopeful that people in Kashmir will not let this conspiracy succeed. We will work together and defeat their purpose," the Director General of Police told reporters.

On Tuesday, three civilians including Makhan Lal Bindroo, the owner of Srinagar's most famous pharmacy, were shot dead by militants within two hours in separate incidents in Srinagar and Bandipora districts of Jammu and Kashmir.

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Rahul, Omar, Union Ministers, leaders condemn target killings Those who perpetrated violence in Valley will pay dearly: Panda

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: Those who perpetrated violence in the Valley in the last few days, and their "sponsors in other countries", will have to pay dearly, BJP national vice-president Bajiraj Jay Panda said on Thursday.

He made the comment in response to a question after releasing a report prepared by a think-tank on Prime Minister Narendra Modi completing 20 years in public office.

Extolling Modi's career as "transformational", Panda said one of his many achievements was the abrogation of Article 370.

Many had raised concerns over its aftermath, but there has been a "drastic change" and "stone-pelting incidents are now things of the past", the BJP leader said, alleging that these incidents were "orchestrated earlier".

"In the last few days, there have been a few incidents of violence, killing of Kashmiri Pandits and non-Muslim people. Thirty years ago, when there was an ethnic cleansing against the Kashmiri Pandit community, it was downplayed at many places. This time, a daughter of one of the victims has spoken out so powerfully. That is the right spirit," Panda told reporters.

Neither the Kashmiri Pandit community nor others "are cowed down by this. Everybody is clear that this is a different India, this is a New India", he said.

"And, I can assure you that people who have committed this outrageous acts of violence and murders in the last 2-3 days, and their sponsors in other countries, they will pay dearly for it," the senior BJP leader said.

"Incidents of violence are increasing in Kashmir. Terrorism has neither stopped due to demonetisation nor after the abrogation of Article 370 - the

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Kishore posted as Excise Comm; Rahul as Secy GAD

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The government on Thursday transferred two JKAS officers.

According to the order issued by Manoj Kumar Dwivedi, Commissioner/Secretary, General Administration Department (GAD), Kishore Singh Chib, JKAS, Director, Rural Development, Jammu has been transferred and posted as Excise Commissioner, J&K vice Rahul Sharma, JKAS, who has been transferred and posted as Secretary in the GAD.

'Please watch your Oct, Nov, Dec,' Govt warns people of COVID surge

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: "Please watch your October, November, December," a senior Health Ministry official warned people on Thursday about the threat of COVID-19 resurgence during the coming festival and wedding season, and advised them to avoid crowded places and celebrate festivals virtually.

Asserting repeatedly that the second wave of the pandemic is not over, the government said that though the situation is plateauing, the country is still reporting as high as 20,000-odd new infections every day. "We cannot take the current stable situation for granted. We have to be mindful of the

134 fresh COVID-19 cases in J&K

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir on Thursday recorded 134 fresh coronavirus cases that pushed its infection tally to 3,30,252, officials said.

The death toll remained unchanged at 4,426, they said. Of the 134 fresh cases, 59 were reported from the Jammu division and 75 from the Kashmir division of the union territory, the officials said.

At 43, Srinagar district recorded the highest number of cases, followed by 35 in Poonch.

The number of active COVID-19 cases in Jammu and Kashmir stands at 1,090. So far, 3,24,736 people have recovered from the disease, the officials

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fact that the pandemic is going on and can take an untoward turn if we are not careful," NITI Aayog member (Health) V K Paul said.

Warning people about the threat of COVID-19 resurgence during the coming fes-

tivals such as Dussehra, Diwali, Durga Puja, Milan-un-Id and Christmas and wedding season, Joint Secretary in the Health Ministry Lav Agarwal said at a press conference,

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Modi dedicates PSA Oxygen Generation Plants across States, UTs LG flags off 68 CC Ambulances; launches 108 Sahayakdoot App



LG Manoj Sinha addressing during the dedication ceremony of PSA Oxygen Generation Plants under PM CARES.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Thursday felicitated Covid warriors including doctors, nurses, para-medical staff, and ambulance drivers for their selfless service to humanity in trying times, and flagged off 68 critical

care ambulances that will be integrated with the existing fleet of 108 ambulances. These ambulances will be monitored round-the-clock through a centralized call centre.

Meanwhile, the Lt Governor virtually attended the event of PM Narendra

Modi, who dedicated Pressure Swing Absorption (PSA) oxygen generation plants across the states & UTs from Uttarakhand.

Lt Governor expressed his gratitude to the Prime Minister for strengthening healthcare infrastructure of J&K UT.

The Lt Governor also launched 108 Sahayakdoot App, a live Ambulance tracking tool, which provides guidance to first responders.

Speaking on the occasion, the Lt Governor said that the initiative will strengthen J&K UT's emergency health services and help in better handling of future health challenges.

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WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)

Max: 33.0°C Min: 21.0°C

Humidity

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Temperature (Srinagar)

Max: 27.4°C Min: 10.2°C

Humidity

Max: 73 Min: 50

Sunset: 18:09 Hours

Sunrise: 06:31 Hours