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STATE TIMES

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03 LG releases Dr Ashok Gadiya's book 'Mere Anubhav aur Itihas Ke Jharoke se Kashmir'

08 Multi-lingual Literary Fest 2022 held at JKPS Kunjwani with fervour

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KP shot dead by terrorists in Shopian

Perpetrators, those aiding, abetting terrorists will be severely punished: LG

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: A Kashmiri Pandit was shot dead allegedly by terrorists in Shopian district on Saturday, officials said.

Deputy Inspector General of Police Sujit Kumar said the Kashmiri Freedom Fighter (KFF) group, the proxy name of a militant outfit, has claimed responsibility for the attack.

Puran Krishan Bhat was attacked near his residence in the south Kashmir district. He was rushed to a hospital where doctors declared him dead, they said.

Officials said the area has been cordoned off and a hunt launched to nab the assailants.

"Terrorists fired upon a civilian (minority) Puran



Krishan Bhat while he was on his way to an orchard in Chowdari Gund, Shopian. He was immediately shifted to a hospital for treatment where he succumbed. Area cordoned off. Search in progress," the Kashmir Zone

Police wrote on Twitter: DIG Sujit Kumar said the initial investigation has revealed that one terrorist fired upon Bhat.

"There was security, our guard, for this cluster. We are looking at the reason (for the

lapse). He had gone out on a scooter and just returned to his home," he added.

Kumar said in case of any lapse, action will be taken against the security guards and the in-charge officials in the area. Investigations are underway and more details will be made public once things become clear, the police officer said.

Deputy Commissioner of Shopian Sachin Kumar Vaishya said Bhat's body will be taken to Jammu where the last rites will be performed. "All arrangements are being made. We are extending help to the family."

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and political leaders condemned the killing.

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Azad condemns murderous attack on Puran Bhat in Shopian

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Democratic Azad Party Chairman and former Chief Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad today condemned the killing of Puran Krishan Bhat, a Kashmiri Pandit, in the Chowdhary Gund area of the Shopian district by terrorists, describing it as an act of barbarism.

In his condolence message, Azad expressed deep grief and shock over the inhuman act, saying terror has no place in civilized society. The alien gun culture has inflicted grave scars on the composite ethos of the Valley, which is evident from the pall of gloom in the entire Chowdhary Gund area with the members of the majority community wailing and showing solidarity with the bereaved family at this hour of their grief and agony. "Pained beyond words

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

J&K Govt orders dismissal of 5 employees for anti-national activities

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The Government of Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday ordered dismissal of five employees under Article 311 of the Constitution of India for their involvement in anti-national activities.

Article 311 of the Constitution of India, provides for dismissal of a person employed in civil capacities under Union or a State. The activities of these employees had come to the adverse notice of law enforcement and intelligence agencies, as they have been found involved in activities prejudicial to the interests of the security of the State.

The Committee constituted vide Government Order No. 738-JK(GAD) of 2020 dated 30.07.2020 for scrutinizing the inputs, records and cog-

nizable material recommended dismissal of Tanveer Saleem Dar, Constable in Auxiliary Wing of J&K Police, son of Ghulam Rasool Dar; Syed Iftikhar Andrabi, VLW, Rural Development Department (Panchayat Secretary), son of Syed Atiqulla Andrabi; Irshad Ahmad Khan, Orderly cum Chowkidar in Jal Shakti Department, Baramulla, son of Ghulam Ahmad Khan; Afaq Ahmad Wani, Manager Baramulla Central Cooperative Bank Ltd. son of Ghulam Rasool Wani; and Abdul Monin Peer, Assistant Lineman, PHE Sub Division Handwara, son of Mohd Ashraf Peer.

Tanveer Saleem Dar has always subscribed to the secessionist and radical ideology. He has been found involved in a number of terror

activities and an active courier of the militant outfits. He is figuring in Case FIR No. 114/2003 under Sections 302,307,120-B etc. He is also figuring in case FIR No. 145/2003 under Sections 302, 307, 120-B registered with PS Kothi Bagh Srinagar.

Syed Iftikhar Andrabi, has worked as OGW for LeT and Hizbul Mujahidin. He had developed close links with POK based terrorists and got involved in Narco terror financing. He can be described as a double agent as he maintained very close relations with Indian Law Enforcement agencies. He is also figuring in case FIR No. 183/2020, PS Handwara, which has been transferred to NIA. Irshad Ahmad Khan has been found involved

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Efforts on to effectively tackle drone threat: BSF



BSF ADG (Western Command) PV Rama Sastry inspecting passing out parade at STC Udhampur.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: The Border Security Force (BSF) is taking steps to make infiltration of terrorists impossible

besides tackling the challenge posed by the use of drones to smuggle weapons and narcotics from across the border, a senior BSF offi-

cer said on Saturday.

BSF Additional Director-General (Western Command) PV Rama Sastry said the force was fully alert to and capable of meeting the challenges on the border and had successfully thwarted all infiltration attempts this year.

Sastry was speaking to reporters after witnessing the passing out parade of 43 recruits who joined the force at Subsidiary Training Centre in Udhampur.

Responding to a question on the threat of infiltration during the winter, the

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

IED detected, destroyed in Bandipora

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Security forces on Saturday averted a major tragedy by detecting and destroying an improvised explosive device (IED) in Bandipora district of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said.

The IED, weighing around 18 kg, was fitted with two gas cylinders in Astango area of the north Kashmir district, they said.

Srinagar-based Public Relations Officer (Defence) Col Emron Musavi said based on intelligence received from police and

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Union MoS urges people to visit scenic tourism destinations in Kulgam

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KULGAM: Highlighting initiatives and measures taken for development and promotion of tourist destinations in the Kulgam, Union Minister of State for Education, Dr. Subhas Sarkar on Saturday exhorted the people to visit this beautiful district and explore Aharbal, Chiranbal, Malvan Top, Kousarnag, Chirsar, Kousarnag, Chimer Badibehak and other tourist destinations.

"Aharbal witnessed a foot-fall of near about two lakh tourists in the past nine months", the Union Minister said during his visit to Kulgam under Central Government Public Outreach Programme.

He held interaction with SHG members and

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

WEATHER
Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 31.1°C Min: 17.7°C
Humidity
Max: 70 Min: 63
Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 26.2°C Min: 6.6°C
Humidity
Max: 72 Min: 42
Sunset : 17:59 Hours
Sunrise : 06:36 Hours

Modi Govt abrogated Art 370 brought by Nehru: Amit Shah



■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SHIMLA: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday said the Narendra Modi government abrogated Article 370, which was brought by former prime minister Jawaharlal

Nehru. Shah was addressing an election rally of the ruling BJP in poll-bound Himachal Pradesh's Sirmaur district.

"Did you ever think that Article 370 would be abrogated," he asked the gathering.

"But Modi ji did it," he added. If you talk to Congress leaders and workers about Article 370, they remain mum as it was brought by Nehru, he said. In August 2019, the BJP-led government at the Centre revoked the special status of Jammu and Kashmir and bifurcated the border state into two Union Territories. Shah also listed the achievements of the Modi and Jai Ram Thakur governments at the Centre and state and urged the voters to reelect the BJP in the November 12 assembly polls.

Country-wide launch of 75 Digital Banking Units PM to inaugurate J&K Bank's Jammu, Srinagar DBUs today

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: As part of country-wide dedication of 75 Digital Banking Units (DBU) to nation in 75 districts under Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, J&K Bank's two DBUs are set to be inaugurated by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi tomorrow.

Established under the Union Government's Digital India mission, these J&K Bank DBUs are located at Lal Chowk near Clock Tower in

Srinagar district and at Chhani Rama in Jammu district.

Commenting on the occa-



sion, Bank's MD & CEO Baldev Prakash on Saturday said, "We feel greatly honoured to be part of the inau-

gural event wherein Prime Minister Narendra Modi will dedicate 75 Digital Banking Units (DBU) with his August hands simultaneously in 75 Districts across the country, which includes our two DBUs in Jammu and Kashmir divisions of the UT."

"And as premier financial institution of J&K UT, we remain committed to implement the Central Government's mission

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Awaam Ki Awaaz

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