

03 Dr Jitendra inaugurates 'Great Khali' Academy, lauds spirit of philanthropy

Govt to extend Rs 2 lakh insurance cover to entire workforce: LG



LG Manoj Sinha chairing review meeting of Labour & Employment Department at Srinagar.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday issued directions to extend Rs 2 Lakh insurance cover to entire workforce including those in the unorganised sector.

"The premium of the insurance would be borne by the Department of Labour and Employment", the Lieutenant Governor said while chairing a review meeting of Labour & Employment Department at the Civil Secretariat.

He said the government is

committed for social and economic justice to workforce in the unorganised sector and every effort are being made to protect the interest of labour, their welfare, necessary skill development to improve the capability.

Appraising the function of the department, the Lt Governor stressed that dedicated efforts be made to saturate self employment schemes, and asked the department for organizing a mega job fair each at Jammu and Srinagar.

Enquiring about the steps

put in place by the department to ensure there is no bonded labour and child labour case in J&K, the Lt Governor asked the Department to ensure J&K is free from bonded labour and child labour by regular inspections and conducting surveys. He directed for starting a help line for unorganised workforce.

"Department must ensure there is no case of exploitation of unorganized workers. Proper employment planning and flexibility in labour deployment in the backdrop

of changing market conditions should be the priority," said the Lt Governor.

The Lt Governor impressed upon the senior officers of the Labour and Employment Department for the welfare and support of the unorganized workforce and their children.

"Health, safety and social security benefits like financial assistance should be top priority. Department should also ensure that all possible assistance for children's education and scholarships is extended within a fixed timeline," the Lt Governor directed the officers.

Reviewing the Employment Sector of the Department, the Lt Governor emphasized on integrated planning by bringing all departments on a single platform and working in convergence for effective and efficient employment related services. Facilitate employment opportunities through

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08 Maiden District Kishtwar Volleyball tourney begins

Terrorist hideout busted in Poonch; arms, ammo seized

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Security forces on Monday busted a terrorist hideout in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district, and seized arms and ammunition from it, officials said.

The hideout was uncovered during a joint search operation by police and security personnel at Sangla village in the Surankote area of the border district, they said. The officials said a pistol,

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Around 95 pc voting recorded in J&K for Cong presidential election

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Around 95 per cent polling was recorded in Jammu and Kashmir for Congress party's presidential elections, the polling of which was held on Monday, the party official said.

Out of total 340 votes, 321 were polled in J-K. While 151 votes were polled in Jammu, 170 were polled in Srinagar, Returning Officer for J-K, and Congress

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09 Man held for setting ablaze two vehicles near Tehsil Court Complex Surankote

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Chief Justice, Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, Justice, Ali Mohammad Magrey on Monday issued fresh directions to the Registrar Judicials of both the wings of the High Court to list old cases in the daily Supplementary Cause lists for speedy disposal so that those cases will be heard by the Benches on priority basis to ensure speedy disposal of the same.

Chief Justice emphasized that the Constitution of India recognizes the need and right to speedy justice, which can



only be achieved by quick disposal and weeding out of old cases from the Courts. "Let us start it from now", he asked the concerned.

Chief Justice also stressed that faith in Judiciary is essential for administration of justice which can be achieved by speedy disposal

of cases. He added that the Courts should create a sense of security among the litigants by assuring them that the one who does the wrong or goes against the laws of the country will be punished and all their just grievances will be redressed within the timelines, so that they may not be tempted to resort to violent self-help and take law in their own hands.

In compliance to the aforesaid directions of Chief Justice, the Registrar Judicials of both the wings have immediately taken up the follow up action in the matter.

200 electric buses to be deployed in J&K's twin capital cities: Officials

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: A fleet of 200 electric buses will be deployed in the twin capital cities of Jammu and Kashmir to establish an environmentally, socially and financially sustainable network of public transport in the union territory, officials said here on Monday.

TATA Motors Ltd and Chalo Mobility Pvt.

Ltd have entered into a strategic collaboration for the deployment of these buses, they said.

They said a contract agreement was signed between the firms in the presence of Chief Secretary Arun Kumar Mehta and Principal Secretary of Housing Urban and Development

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J&K Govt invites nominations for Republic Day awards

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The Union territory administration on Monday invited nominations for the grant of J&K Government Awards for the year 2023 on the eve of Republic Day.

A notification was issued by General Administration Department here inviting the nominations.

The awards include Award for Bravery, Award for achievements in the field of Literature, Award for performing Art, Award for Excellence in Art & Crafts,

Award for Social Reforms and Empowerment, Award for Meritorious Public Service (two awards shall be reserved for Non-Gazetted Officials), an official spokesman said.

He said the Award for Lifetime Achievements in any other field, Award for Outstanding Sports Person, Award for Outstanding Media Person, Award for Outstanding Environmentalist and Award for Outstanding Industrial Entrepreneurship are

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DGP Lohia's suspicious murder; domestic help to undergo narco analysis test

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Special Crime Branch Wing of Jammu and Kashmir Police, investigating the Director General Prison Hemant Kumar Lohia's suspicious murder case, is contemplating to have narco analysis test of the main accused Yasir Ahmad—the domestic help, alleged in the brutal killing.

Hemant Kumar Lohia was found murdered at the house of his friend in Udhewala area falling under the jurisdiction of Domana Police

Station. Reliable sources informed that the CB investigators have also got recorded the statement of the accused in the court under Section 164 IPC. He is reported to have given the consent, which is mandatory, for narco analysis.

Investigations, into the suspicious murder of Hemant

Kumar Lohia, DG Prisons J&K, was transferred to the Special Crime Wing of Jammu and Kashmir Police.

On October 3, Lohia was found murdered in a house at Udhewala on Gajansoo Road near Baru Resort in Jammu on late Monday night. Yasir Ahmed, the 23-year-old domestic helper, was arrested after a massive manhunt by the J&K Police on October 4. Lohia remained on central

deputation for quite a long period but returned to Jammu-Kashmir in February 2022 in the rank of Additional Director General of Police and was posted as Commandant General in Home Guards/Civil Defence/State Disaster Response Force (SDRF). Later, he was promoted to Director General of Police and was posted as DG Prisons in August 2022.

Examining the scene of crime with forensic experts,

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Centre okays lowering cut-off marks by 25 percentile for admission to 2022-23 PG Medical courses

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The Centre on Monday approved lowering the cut-off marks for admission to PG medical courses for 2022-23 while taking into consideration that a large number of seats had gone vacant in the PG counselling held for the last academic session.

The reduction in cut-off marks will be by 25 percentile across all categories, official sources told PTL.

The decision has been taken based on recommendations by the National

Medical Commission (NMC), they said.

Around 1,400 seats had remained vacant mainly in pre- and para-clinical subjects in the last session, the sources said.

"Since such post-graduate seats going vacant is a sheer wastage of resources in a country where postgraduate medical seats are premium, a decision to reduce cut-off for admission to post-graduate courses for 2022-23 by 25 percentile across all categories has been taken,"

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DAP committed to uplift socio-economic condition of weaker sections: Azad



Chairman DAP and former CM Ghulam Nabi Azad addressing a public gathering at Marh.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

MARH: Chairman DAP and former Chief Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad on Monday said that the governments were duty bound to uplift weaker sections of the society and formulating schemes for their welfare.

"DAP is committed to ensure the holistic development of Jammu and Kashmir with thrust on ame-

liorating the lot of weaker sections", Azad said while addressing public gathering at Marh constituency organised by former MLA and senior DAP leader Thakur Balwan Singh.

Prominent among those who spoke on the occasion include former Dy Chief Minister Tara Chand, Ch Garu Ram, Senior DAP lead-

ers Ashok Bhagat, Mohinder Bardwaj, Vinod Mishra, Corporator Gurav Chopra, Vicky Mahajan, Raj Dev Singh Jamwal, Lala Devi Dass, Ashwani Sharma, Col Somnath Dogra, Darshan Motton and others.

Addressing the gathering, Azad said the people living in hilly areas who are living

Below Poverty Line (BPL), should get focused attention. He cautioned workers that there are elements trying to hatch conspiracies and create confusion. "We are on our own and our agenda is clear, straightforward and people-oriented," he said.

Azad urged the central government that assurances

given by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah to Jammu and Kashmir political leaders in the all-party meeting in Delhi should be implemented.

He was referring to the restoration of statehood and holding elections after

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Protest outside Hurriyat office in Srinagar against killing of KP

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: A group of people, including social activists, staged a protest outside the Hurriyat Conference office here on Monday against the killing of Kashmiri Pandit farmer Purn Krishan Bhat by terrorists last week, officials said.

The Hurriyat denounced what it called hooliganism by sponsored goons with police as bystanders.

The protesters assembled outside the office of the Mirwaiz Umar Farooq-led Hurriyat at Rajbagh here and held a protest. They held the Hurriyat responsible for the bloodshed in

Kashmir Valley. The protesters daubed "India" on the main gate of the Hurriyat's central building and brought down the signboard of the separatist amalgam, the officials said.

The gate was locked.

The protesters included social activists, municipal corporators and Kashmiri Pandits, the officials added.

One of the protesters said the Hurriyat office will be closed down soon and an orphanage will be run from the building.

Another protester, a Kashmiri Pandit, said the people of Kashmir have realised that they want peace and not bloodshed.

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