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STATETIMES

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SOWING SKILLS

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02 Gang of car-lifters busted; 2 arrested, 5 stolen vehicles recovered

03 Chugh, Raina, Jugal welcome Mankotia at BJP headquarters Jammu

09 J&K Govt issues instructions for lodging, disposing of complaints against public servants

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

NINTH NAVRATRA

Maa Sidhidhatri

Ninth incarnation of Maa Durga, Maa 'Sidhidhatri' can bless one with all the 'Siddhis'. According to Puranas even Bhugwan Shiv got Siddhi by virtue of Maa Sidhidhatri and his body was converted into 'Ardra Narishwar'. The ride of Maa is Lion and she is on lotus. Her four hands have Chakra, Gada, Shankha and Lotus. By her blessings one gets heaven after enjoying all pleasures of life. Mantra to be recited nine times is :-

"Om Aing Hreeng Kleeeng Chamundaye Vichai Bhagwati Sidhidhatri Mum Sarvam Sarv Siddhim Parikल्पay Parikalpaya Swaha"

ॐ ऐं ह्रीं क्लीं चामुण्डायै विच्ची भगवती सिद्धिदायि नमः सर्वम् सर्वं सिद्धिं परिकल्पये परिकल्पये स्वाहा

DG Prisons H K Lohia found murdered under suspicious circumstances

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Director General (DG) Prisons, H K Lohia was found murdered in a house at Udhaywala on Gajansoo Road near Baru Resort in Jammu on late Monday night.

DGP Dilbag Singh said that dead body of Hemant Kumar Lohia, DG Prisons J&K was found under suspicious circumstances. First examination of the scene of crime reveals



it as a suspected murder case. The domestic help with the officer is absconding, Singh said, adding, "A search operation has been launched".

"Forensic teams and crime teams are on spot. Investigation process has begun while senior officers are on spot. J&K Police family expresses grief and deep sorrow over the death of their senior officer", DGP states in his message.

Taj Mohi-ud-Din, Chib appointed as DAP Treasurer, Gen Secy

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Former Jammu and Kashmir ministers Taj Mohi-ud-din and R S Chib were on Monday appointed as the treasurer and the general secretary respectively of the newly-floated Democratic Azad Party (DAP).

DAP chairman and former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Ghulam Nabi Azad appointed Mohi-ud-din and Chib to the posts, the party said in a statement. Azad (73), who quit the

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Non-local bank manager escapes terror attack in Pattan

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: A non-local bank manager escaped unhurt after terrorists fired at him in Baramulla district on Monday, officials said.

The incident took place in Goushbugh in the Pattan area of the north Kashmir district, they said.

Further details are awaited.

WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)

Max: 34.1°C Min: 20.3°C

Humidity

Max : 61 Min : 53

Temperature (Srinagar)

Max: 27.0°C Min: 9.6°C

Humidity

Max : 75 Min: 42

Sunset : 18:15 Hours

Sunrise : 06:27 Hours

Amit Shah arrives in Jammu on 3-day tour of J&K

Likely to launch Rs 1,900 Cr 16 projects in Jammu Div

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Union Home Minister Amit Shah arrived here on Monday on a three-day visit of Jammu and Kashmir.

Shah arrived in the evening and was received at the airport by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and Union minister Jitendra Singh, besides Pradesh President BJP Ravinder Raina and former Dy Chief Minister Nirmal Singh, among others.

In Jammu, according to sources, Shah is likely to launch 16 projects involving cost of Rs 1,900 Crore in the Jammu Division. The major projects include formation of 1000 cooperatives, launch of Digital tagline for J&K, 225 services under IT will Online, 128 roads with length of 920 kms at the cost of Rs 1,111.96 Cr besides laying of 100-bedded Hospital at Lamberi, Rajouri and 41 water supply schemes under Jal Mission.

Late in the evening, Jammu based delegations of Gujjar, Bakerwal, Pahari communities and Rajput Sabha called on the Home Minister at Raj Bhawan.

Former President Amar Khstriya Rajputa Sabha and sen-



LG Manoj Sinha welcoming Home Minister Amit Shah on his arrival in Jammu while a delegation of Pahari Community meeting Amit Shah. (More pics on pg-3)

ior BJP leader Thakur Narayan Singh expressed gratitude to the Home Minister for conceding to the over whelming demand of declaring Maharaja Hari Singh's birth anniversary as public holiday in J&K.

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has promised the Scheduled Tribe (ST) status to Paharis, a long-pending demand of the community mostly residing in Rajouri and Poonch in the Jammu region

and Baramulla in north Kashmir; where Shah is scheduled to address public rallies over the next two days.

Gujjars and Bakerwals have expressed resentment over the proposed inclusion of Paharis in the ST category.

There is massive enthusiasm among the Paharis in anticipation of a major announcement from the home minister but at the same time, the Gujjars and the

Bakerwals, apprehending dilution of the ST status, have come out to express their resentment against the proposed move.

Hundreds of Gujjar and Bakerwal college students gathered here and staged a peaceful march to oppose the likely inclusion of the Pahari-speaking people in the ST category.

The STs have been granted 10 per cent reservation in the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly for the

first time after a recent delimitation exercise. Nine seats have been reserved for the STs, while seven are reserved for the Scheduled Castes (SCs).

Welcoming the visit of the Home Minister, the Jammu and Kashmir Gujjar Bakerwals Organisations Coordination Committee appreciated the steps taken by the BJP-led Centre for the betterment of the people of Jammu and Kashmir in general and that of the STs in

Home Minister's visit to Rajouri: Traffic Advisory issued

JAMMU: Authorities on Monday issued a Traffic Advisory on the scheduled visit of Home Minister to Rajouri where he will address a public rally. As per the advisory issued by Traffic Police Office Rural Jammu, the Vehicles of Participants plying from Poonch, Surankote, Mendhar and Manjakote routes will be de-boarded at convoy ground (Yatra ground) and LMVs will be parked at Convoy ground.

Buses/Minibuses/Tata Sumos of Poonch, Surankote, Mendhar and Manjakote routes, after de-boarding the participants at convoy ground, will be returned back and parked at SKUAST ground Tandwal. Vehicles of Participants plying from

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particular.

"For the last 30 years, no central or state government implemented the law relating to the STs in Jammu and Kashmir. It is the current government that provided political reservation and implemented

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

One dead, 67 injured as overloaded bus overturns in Udhampur

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
UDHAMPUR/JAMMU: A person was killed and 67 others were injured on Monday when an overloaded private bus turned turtle in Udhampur district of Jammu and Kashmir; officials said.

The bus was on its way to Udhampur town from Moungri Khor Gali. As the bus reached Krimachi-Mansar; its driver lost control while negotiating a blind curve, they said. The vehicle overturned and rolled down 40 feet, killing one passenger and



People rescuing injured passengers from the bus.

injuring 67, the officials said. Most of the injured, which

include students and office-goers, are stable, they said.

J&K Admn ropes in women SHGs to run canteens in Govt offices

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Stepping further towards emancipating women as a self-reliant member of the society, the Jammu and Kashmir government has roped in women Self Help Groups to operate canteens at government offices under the J&K Rural Livelihoods Mission.

In a first, the Kashmir State Taxes Department, Kashmir, has commenced such canteen facility from its main complex at Excise and Taxation Complex,

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Four JKSSB Members recalled, 4 JKAS officers transferred

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Government on Monday recalled for Members from the J&K Services Selection Board and transferred four JKAS officers.

"Four Members namely Shagun Sharma, Ashiq Hussain Lily, Neelam Khajuria and Narayan Dutt are recalled from the J&K Services Selection Board and shall await further orders of adjustment in the General Administration Department (GAD), with immediate effect," read an order issued

by Dr. Piyush Singla, Secretary, GAD.

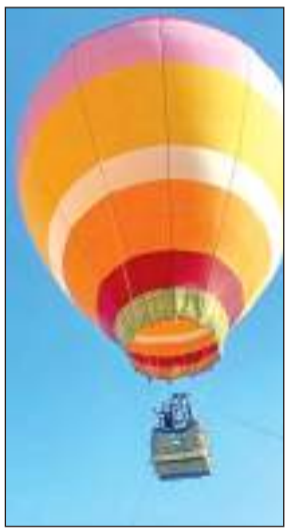
Consequently, it added that, Ghulam Hassan Sheikh, JKAS, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Anantnag, Amit Vermani, JKAS, Joint Director, Industries and Commerce, Jammu and Atul Kumar, JKAS, Joint Director, Youth Services and Sports, Jammu have been transferred and posted as Members of J&K Services Selection Board; while Reyaz Ahmad Malik, JKAS, Joint

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Tourism Deptt, IISM Gulmarg conduct Hot Ballooning Course at Jammu

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: To tap the immense adventure tourism potential of Jammu region, Directorate of Tourism Jammu, under the supervision of Secretary Tourism J&K Sarmad Hafeez, successfully conducted a Hot Air Ballooning Course in the Football Ground of Government Science College Jammu.

The course was conducted under the aegis of Indian Institute of Skiing & Mountaineering (IISM) Gulmarg which is one of India's premier Adventure Institute falling under the



ambit of Ministry of Tourism, Government of India. The Institute has successfully organized two Hot Air Ballooning Courses at Jammu each with a time span of 10 days. A total of 25adventure students from all over the country participated and successfully completed each course.

The Directorate of Tourism Jammu has taken the initiative to coordinate with IISM Gulmarg to promote adventure tourism in Jammu region especially the air borne adventure activities and is also expecting to

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Applications invited for appointment as Chairperson, Members for J&K-WRRA

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: To fill up the vacant posts of one Chairperson and two Members of J&K Water Resources Regulatory Authority (WRRA), the Government of J&K, Jal Shakti Department, Civil Secretariat Jammu / Kashmir has invited the applications from the interested persons.

As per a notification issued here on Monday, persons who are holding or have held post not below the rank of Principal Secretary to the Government and have adequate knowledge of, or

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IAF inducts indigenously-built Light Combat Helicopter



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh along with others after taking a sortie on newly inducted indigenously developed Light Combat Helicopter to Indian Air Force in Jodhpur.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JODHPUR: The Indian Air Force (IAF) on Monday inducted the first fleet of indigenously-built Light Combat Helicopter (LCH), which has been developed primarily for mountain warfare after a requirement for it was felt during the Kargil war in 1999.

Developed by state-run aerospace major Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL), the 5.8-tonne twin-engine gunship chopper is armed with air-to-air missiles, 20 mm turret guns, rocket systems and other weapons.

The fleet comprising four helicopters was inducted into the IAF at a ceremo-

ny at the Jodhpur Air Force Station in presence of Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Chief of Air Staff Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhari and other senior military officials.

The LCH would be an effective platform in hitting enemy targets, tanks, bunkers, drones and other assets in high-altitude regions, military officials said.

In his address, Singh described the induction of the indigenously-built LCH into the IAF as a "momentous occasion" for India's defence production.

"The IAF has been playing an important role in protecting India's sovereignty and I am confident that its overall capability will enhance further following induction of LCH," Singh said in his address.

"We have been focusing on boosting the country's defence production following certain developments.... security of the country has been our foremost priority and it will remain so," he said.

The defence minister also complimented the IAF

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