

THE BOLD VOICE OF J&K

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Air Vice Marshal Praveen Vohra, Kerala UU Legislative Assembly panel meet LG J&K

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Court awards 20-yr RI, Rs 2 lakh fine to heroin smuggler

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CS calls for developing truck holding areas on NH

Situation has not returned to normal: **MEA on Ladakh border row**

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: India on Friday said the situation in eastern Ladakh has not returned to the stage of full normalcy as some steps are yet to be taken for it.

The comments of Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) Spokesperson Arindam Bagchi came days after Chinese envoy Sun Weidong claimed that the situation in eastern Ladakh is "overall stable" as the two sides have moved from the "emergency response" that followed the Galwan valley clashes in June 2020 to "normalised" management.

"Some steps are required for full normalcy, we have not reached there," Bagchi said when asked about the Chinese ambassador's remarks.

The MEA spokesperson said India has been maintaining that it expects disengagement followed by deescalation for the return of



which could pave the way for normal ties between the two neighbouring countries.

"We have not reached there.... I would not like to say that the situation is normal. There have been some positive steps, but some steps are yet to be taken," he

Bagchi also referred to External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar's remarks last month that the disengagement at Patrolling Point 15 in eastern Ladakh was "one problem less" on the border.

Indian Air Force (IAF) chief Air Chief Marshal V R

of Actual Control (LAC) is key for the overall development of its ties with China and the state of the border will determine the state of the bilateral relationship.

The eastern Ladakh border standoff erupted on May 5, 2020, following a violent clash in the Pangong lake areas.

ing that peace along the Line

sides gradually Both enhanced their deployment by rushing in tens of thousands of soldiers and heavy weaponry.

As a result of a series of military and diplomatic talks, the two sides completed the disengagement process last year on the north and south banks of the Pangong lake and in the Goora area

The disengagement in the Pangong lake area took place in February last year, while the withdrawal of troops and equipment from Patrolling Point 17(A) in Gogra took place in August last year.

J&K Govt announces uniform academic calendar in schools ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir government Friday has decided to implement a uniform academic calendar in all schools in the union territory including the conduct of annual examinations in the March-April session

for up to class nine. The order, issued by School Education department principal secretary Alok Kumar stated, "sanction is

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Eid-i-Milad-ul-Nabi holiday on Sunday

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Government on Friday ordered that the holiday on 'Eid-i-Milad-ul-Nabi' shall be observed on October 9 instead of October

"In partial modification of Government Order No. 1337-JK(GAD) of 2021 dated December 16, 2021 read with Government Order No.1338-JK(GAD) of 2021 dated December 16, 2021, the holiday on account

Five terror-associates held as police bust module behind IED smuggling in Poonch

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Police on Friday said a module behind the smuggling of an improvised explosive device (IED) and a huge quantity of narcotics was busted with the arrest of five terror-associates in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district.

Besides the IED, six kg of suspected heroin worth crores of rupees in the international market and a pistol were seized from the possession of the accused, Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP), Poonch, Rohit Baskotra said.

He said the IED was smuggled from across the Line of Control (LoC) and recovered from Zaitoona Akhter (35), a resident of Qasba, by a joint team of police and security forces, thus thwarting an attempt of terrorists to carry out an explosion.

The woman was apprehended and a case under the relevant sections of the

February last year but his

selection could not take place

due to cancellation of the

recruitment after govern-

ment announced Agniveer

scheme. I am hopeful of get-

ting selected and continuing

SSP Poonch, Rohit Baskotra along with other officers and accused persons with seized material.

lodged, toldreporters

the He said revealed that her husband, Mohammad Azad, gave the IED to her and accordingly, he was picked up and subjected to sustained questioning, leading to the busting of the module.

Azad's maternal uncle Bashir Ahmad alias Tika Khan, who is associated with the Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and Hizbul Mujahideen terror groups across the border, had sent the IED for subversive activities and it was received by Azad and Qamardin.

Both Azad and Qamardin, a resident of Kirni, were in touch with their relatives in Pakistan who are involved in terror activities. Baskotra said, adding that two brothers of Qamardin -- Najim Din alias Naja and Latief -are living in the Mangbajri camp in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) and are

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Locals allege Police hand-in-glove with attackers Property dealer stabbed at Miran Sahib, Rs 6 lakh

looted; police fails to nab main culprit

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A property dealer was stabbed multiple times by rival group members at Miran Sahib area on Friday while the main accused managed to flee giving a dodge to the police. The attackers also snatched Rs 6 lakh from the injured property dealer.

Some locals alleged that the local police facilitated the main accused to flee from the area after committing the crime while two co-accused have been detained and are being interrogated to ascertain the reason behind attempt to murder a property dealer identified as Sandeep Singh, resident of

Eye witnesses revealed that the property dealer Sandeep Singh was stabbed multiple times and all the accused managed to flee without any fear as if they are getting the full support from the local The victim's family mem-

bers and friends alleged that the local police is

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Agniveer recruitment rally gets massive response in Jammu

Chaudhari on Tuesday said

the benchmark for the situa-

tion to become normal in

eastern Ladakh would be to

return to status quo ante

prior to the standoff and a

complete withdrawal of

troops from all friction

Though the two sides have

disengaged from Patrolling

Point 15 (PP-15), there has

been no progress yet on

resolving the standoff in the

Demchok and Depsang

Following the eastern

Ladakh standoff, India has

regions.

JAMMU: Hundreds of enthusiastic youngsters, mostly from Jammu and Kashmir's Samba district, thronged the Army Agniveer recruitment rally which commenced here on Friday, officials said.

The rally, being organised by Army Recruiting Office, Jorawar Jammu, Stadium, Sunjuwan, will continue till October 22, the officials said

"I want to get recruited in the army to serve the nation even if it is for one year only," a passionate youth, who



wished not to be named, said. Most of the youth turned up at the venue in the early

hours - much before the

in Jammu on Friday. schedule time of the start of

the rally. "My brother had appeared in a similar rally here in

service in the Army, rather than leaving the force after four years," another youth said. Jammu-based Defence Public Relations Officer (PRO) Lt Col Devender Anand said the rally is being

conducted for the aspiring youth from 10 districts of

Jammu province - Samba, ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Terror funding probe: SIA raids multiple locations in Kashmir ■ STATE TIMES NEWS NIA Act (TADA/POTA),

SRINAGAR: Continuing to

rein in the networks of terror outfits with a purpose of destroving its ecosystems completely, State Investigation Agency (SIA), Kashmir on Friday conducted searches at multiple locations across South Kashmir.

The residential premises of suspects in Anantnag, Awantipora, Pulwama, Kulgam and Shopian were searched in compliance to search warrant obtained from the Court of Special Judge, Designated under

Srinagar in connection with investigation of case FIR No. 16/2022 u/s 13, 18, 19, 38, 39, 40 UA(P) Act, read with 120-B, 121 IPC registered in Police Station CIK (SIA) Kashmir.

According to officials, the case pertains to a terrorist grid active in the Valley. The details being investigated are at the initial stage and these pertain to masterminds in Pakistan, who with active support of Pakistani Intelligence Agencies and

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