

**03** Two brothers among 3 held for duping people with promise of Govt jobs

**09** Retired Subedar among two die, 3 injured in mishaps

**10** Jammu Volleyball Championship from today

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## India has kept spotlight on cross-border terror: Jaishankar

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

HYDERABAD: Relentless efforts by India helped in keeping the spotlight on cross-border terrorism it faced and the world was gradually becoming aware of the global nature of international terror, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said on Monday.

Without naming Pakistan, he said one of India's immediate neighbours was indulging in state-sponsored cross-border terrorism.

"The era of terrorism was 'not my problem' came to an end after the 9/11 attacks, though it still has to produce a whole-hearted international collaborative effort, he said.

"We have in our immediate neighbourhood, a particularly egregious example of state-sponsored cross-border terrorism.

The world is gradually becoming aware of the global nature of international terrorism," he said, in a virtual address at a programme organised by the Indian School of Business (ISB) here.

The Minister added: "Our relentless efforts have kept it in the spotlight bringing out the related aspects like terror finance radicalisation and cyber recruitments. The goal remains to reach a comprehensive convention on the subject. We will not rest till that happens."

Talking about the Vande Bharat mission, he said India brought back more than 24 lakh of its nationals from other



countries during the COVID-19 lockdown.

The country also extended help in sending back over one lakh foreigners to their respective countries during the pandemic, he said.

"More than 24 lakh of our people have been repatriated through flights by land and sea. From Air India to the Indian Navy, we pressed all our resources to achieve this goal," Jaishankar said.

The intention was very simple, today's India will not leave any Indian abroad in distress.

"After all we are in many ways a unique economy that is heavily reliant on mobility and migration. Our credibility depends on the assurance we provide to those abroad who contribute to progress at home," he added.

Jaishankar said there were many lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic

experience which will be reflected in coming times.

The country's immediate focus was on economic recovery and the figures for September and October have "really been encouraging", he said.

There was also a greater awareness globally about a more resilient supply chain and India can exploit the sentiment for additional engines of growth, by creating better conditions for production, he said.

Explaining about India's capabilities in terms of medical equipment in the aftermath of COVID-19, he said the country currently has 15,000 dedicated facilities with 1.5 million isolation beds.

Over a million of the population was being tested for the virus in more than 7000 testing centres across the country.

The challenge now was to take this ability to rise to the moment of crisis and transform that into a more routine set of practices and procedures, he opined.

The world was not going to carry business as usual as the winds of change were blowing again.

Those with the more self-centred views of world politics will have to come to terms with the needs of the day, he said without mentioning any country.

Jaishankar further said if health security is the immediate challenge, the perennial ones cannot be neglected either. According to him, in the last few years India

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## Pak violates ceasefire along LoC

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Pakistani troops on Monday targeted Indian positions on the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir's Tangdhar sector by firing mortars and from other weapons, a defence spokesman said.

"Pakistan initiated an unprovoked ceasefire violation along LoC in Tangdhar sector, Kupwara district, today by firing mortars and other weapons," Defence Spokesman Colonel Rajesh Kalia said. He said a befitting response is being given by the Indian army to the Pakistani aggression.

## Terrorists lob grenade on police post

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Terrorists on Monday hurled a grenade towards a police post in Kulgam district of Jammu and Kashmir but there was no loss of life, police said.

Terrorists hurled a grenade towards Police Post Frisal in the south Kashmir district in the evening, a police official said. He said the grenade missed the intended target and exploded outside the building. There was no loss of life in the incident, he added.

## Terrorists may try to disrupt DDC polls, need to be more vigilant: DGP

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: There is a possibility of terrorists trying to disrupt the upcoming District Development Council (DDC) polls in Jammu and Kashmir as continuous attempts are being made by elements across the border to create trouble in the Union Territory, Director General of Police Dilbag Singh said here on Monday.

The first phase of the polls will take place on November 28.

"There is a need to be more vigilant and cautious in view of the possibility of terrorists attempting to disrupt the democratic process in J-K. Continuous attempts are being made by elements across the border to create trouble here," Singh said.

He was addressing a meeting to review security plans and preparedness in central Kashmir for the upcoming DDC elections and by-elections for Panchayats and Urban Local Bodies (ULB).

R R Bhatnagar, Advisor to the J-K Lt Governor, was present in the meeting.

The DGP directed the officers to devise the security



DGP Dilbag Singh addressing officers during the meeting.

plans and depute personnel as per the requirement and emphasised the need for making effective use of drones to monitor the situation in and around polling stations.

Complimenting the J-K Police personnel, security forces and intelligence agencies for achieving the highest degree of synergy and coordination in handling the internal security situation in J-K, Singh said the forces need to continue the coordinated efforts to accomplish this important task efficiently and peacefully.

The DGP also stressed on having efficient arrangements for the mobility and accommodation of the forces

deployed for elections and asked the officers to keep a vigil on the ground situation and ensure that people would exercise their franchise freely.

He said the personnel on the ground should be briefed regularly for better results and joint efforts by the stakeholders should be put in for timely action to deal with any situation.

The officers briefed the Advisor and the DGP regarding the preparedness in their respective jurisdictions.

Before the Advisor and the DGP joined the meeting, detailed discussions were held by IGP Kashmir

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## Heavy snowfall in J&K, avalanche warning in 4 Kashmir districts



Snowfall leads to closure of Jammu-Srinagar Highway.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Several high-altitude areas of Jammu and Kashmir, Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh were wrapped in thick white

sheets of snow, with many tourist destinations like Kufri, Manali and Auli receiving the season's first snowfall, while

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India's daily COVID-19 recoveries more than daily fresh infections for 44 days in a row

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: India's trend of registering daily COVID-19 recoveries outpacing the daily infections continued for the 44th day as 43,851 patients recuperated in a span of 24 hours as against 30,548 newly detected cases, the Union Health Ministry said on Monday.

This translates to a net reduction of 13,303 in the active COVID-19 caseload which now stands at 4,65,478 and accounts for 5.26 per cent of the total cases.

"Daily new cases numbering 30,548 is a historic low that assumes significance given many countries in Europe and America are experiencing a continuous steep rise in daily new cases," the ministry said.

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**WEATHER**

Temperature (Jammu)  
Max: 21.1°C Min: 13.6°C

Humidity  
Max: 90 Min: 55

Temperature (Srinagar)  
Max: 10.7°C Min: 2.8°C

Humidity  
Max: 89 Min: 75

Sunset : 17:31 Hours  
Sunrise : 07:03 Hours

## CBI takes over 3 land encroachment cases from ACB

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Central Bureau of Investigation has registered three separate cases in pursuance to the orders of J&K High Court in PIL No. 19/2011 and taken over the investigation of these cases, earlier registered by Vigilance Organisation, Jammu (now Anti-Corruption Bureau, UT of J&K) vide FIR 23/2015, FIR 5/2015 and FIR 6/2014.

The first case has been registered against unknown Officials of Revenue Department, Jammu in connection with FIR 23/2015 of Vigilance Organisation,

Jammu (now Anti-Corruption Bureau, UT of J&K) earlier registered on the allegations that the officers/officials of Revenue Department of District Jammu had conferred undue benefits upon the illegal occupants of the state land by intentionally ignoring the laid down provisions of Roshni Act and rules, thereby conferring ownership rights of the state land wrongfully to selective undeserving persons and hence inflicted huge monetary loss to the State exchequer. It was further alleged that the purpose of Jammu and Kashmir State Lands (vesting of own-

ership rights to the Occupants) Act, 2001 i.e. generation of Revenue for undertaking developmental works in the state was defeated.

The second case has been registered against unknown Officers / Officials of Revenue Department, District Samba in connection with FIR 5/2015 of Vigilance Organisation, Jammu (now Anti-Corruption Bureau, UT of J&K) earlier registered on the allegations that the officers/officials of Revenue department of District Samba had conferred undue pecuniary benefits upon the

illegal occupants of the State Land by intentionally contravening the legal provisions of Roshni Act. It was further alleged that in many cases, ownership rights over the state land were conferred in favour of individuals, who were not having the recorded possession in their respective names in the revenue records. It was also alleged that the rates were not fixed by the Price Fixation committee, as per the provisions of the Act and in many cases were not remitted to the Government Treasury, thereby causing huge loss to the State exchequer.

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## 'NC, Cong compromised Dogra pride' Will Congress restore Art 370 if voted to power: Dr Jitendra

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh on Monday dared the Congress Party to explain to the people whether it subscribed to the manifesto of the Gupkar Alliance of which it had chosen to be a partner and whether it would restore Article 370 and 35-A, if ever voted to power.

Responding to media queries, Dr Jitendra said, the Gupkar Alliance will spell the doom for Congress Party



not only in Jammu & Kashmir but across the whole of India. He also dared the National Conference (NC) to explain

to the people of Jammu region whether it endorsed the Gupkar Resolution to restore Article 370.

Accusing these political parties of playing with the sentiments of people through misleading statements, Dr Jitendra expressed surprise that both the National Conference and Congress are today crying hoarse for the honour of Dogras, whereas these two political parties are precisely responsible for

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## COVID-19: 390 fresh cases in J&K

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir on Monday recorded 390 fresh novel coronavirus cases, while eight deaths took place in the last 24 hours, officials said.

The total COVID-19 tally of the Union Territory and the death toll now stand at 1,03,009 and 1,597, respectively, they said.

Out of the fresh cases, 150 were from the Jammu division and 240 from the Kashmir division of the Union Territory, the

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## Nitish gets CM's chair, BJP lion's share in ministerial pie

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

PATNA: Nitish Kumar was back as Bihar chief minister for a record seventh time on Monday, heading a 14-strong council of ministers whose two BJP members were tipped to become his deputies reflecting the changed power dynamics in the state.

Kumar was administered the oath of office by Governor Fagu Chauhan at a simple ceremony at Raj Bhavan which was attended, among others, by Union



Home Minister Amit Shah and BJP national president J P Nadda, but boycotted by the opposition 'Mahagathbandhan', a grand

alliance of five parties led by the RJD.

The swearing-in of the 69-year-old leader marked the start of a tenure when his JD(U) stands enfeebled by an electoral setback and the BJP has emerged way too stronger than its regional ally for the first time.

The opposition RJD, which has emerged as the single largest party in the 243-strong assembly, announced its 'boycott of the

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## Why J&K DDC polls are important for New Delhi

Massive response to 1st elections in UT of J&K after August 2019

■ AHMED ALI FAYYAZ

JAMMU: Kashmir-based mainstream opposition parties' decision to form an anti-BJP conglomerate and to participate in the first District Development Council (DDC) elections in the Union Territory (UT) of Jammu and Kashmir has put many speculations to an end. All the political analysts who were sceptical about the prospects of the Indian authorities holding a dignified democratic exercise after abrogation of Article 370 and the erstwhile State's division into the two UTs in August 2019 have been proved wrong.

The DDC elections, coupled with filling up of over 13,000 Panch and Sarpanch vacancies in an 8-phase electoral exercise from November 28 to December 22, in which over 6 million adults have the right to vote, are drawing a substantial response from the people as well as the political par-

ties. Significantly, not one party has stayed away. And, more significantly, unlike in the past, no separatist or militant organisation has called for a boycott.

Some tweets, interviews and statements from the National Conference (NC) and the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), including the former Chief Ministers Omar Abdullah and Mehbooba Mufti, earlier this year, had cast the shadows of uncertainty with regard to the Kashmiris' participation in any elections post-2019. Taking a moral high ground, these leaders had asserted that they would not be contesting any elections as long as J&K continued as UT and until the Statehood and the special status under Article 370 were restored.

Days after the government announced the first DDC elections, which also happen to be the UT's

first universal adult franchise, seven of the valley-based parties in the Peoples Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD) decided to contest the same "unitedly". The NC and the PDP are playing the key role in creating a front against the BJP and the Apni Party (AP). The Communist Party of India (Marxist) too is a constituent of the PAGD.

The Congress party stayed away tactfully till completion of the Bihar Assembly elections. Immediately after the results were declared in Bihar, the Congress party began asserting itself as an electoral ally of the PAGD. The J&K Pradesh Congress Committee announced to share seats with the PAGD even as both fielded their candidates separately in the first two phases of the DDC elections.

It is now clearly a straight fight of the valley-based regional parties, the

Congress and the CPI (M) with the BJP. The Apni Party has also been filing nominations separately. Favouring restoration of the Statehood but compromising on Article 370, the Apni Party is being widely perceived as the BJP's friendly. It comprises most of the dissidents, including former Ministers and legislators, who have deserted the PDP in the last two years.

As of now, more than 600 candidates have filed nomination papers for the first two phases of the polling for DDCs. The DDC elections are being held in 280 seats-14 in each district. In phase-I, there are 43 seats-25 in Kashmir and 18 in Jammu. As many as 352 candidates-183 in Kashmir and 169 in Jammu-have filed nominations in the phase-I for which the polling would be held on November 28. For the vacant seats of Panches

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## PM urges people to support local economy, asks seers to spread message of 'vocal for local'

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAIPUR: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday called upon people to continue to support the local economy like they did on Diwali and urged seers to also spread the message of 'vocal for local'.

He also unveiled a statue of Jain seer Vijay Vallabh Surishwer on his 151th birth anniversary through video conference.

"The way the country gave a tremendous support to the local economy on Diwali and other festivals, it indeed gives a new energy and we have to maintain this," Modi said while addressing a programme in Pali through the video conference.

The prime minister also appealed to seers to spread



the message of 'vocal for local' among their followers. "I would like to request our saints and seers that wherever they go and speak, the message of 'vocal for local' should be spread by them," he said.

The prime minister said that Jainacharya Vijay Vallabh worked for education, women empowerment and other causes during his time. He said the

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