

03 J&K Bank half-yearly profit jumps over four-times YoY to Rs 215.41 Cr

09 Five killed in road mishaps

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Suicide bomber among 3 terrorists killed in 2 encounters in Kashmir

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Three terrorists, including a 'fidayeen' (suicide bomber), were killed in two separate encounters in Jammu and Kashmir, police said on Friday, taking the number of ultras killed so far this year to 133.

A 'Mujahideen Gazwatul Hind' terrorist who was assigned to carry out a 'fidayeen' (suicide) attack in Srinagar was killed, while a Hizbul Mujahideen (HM) district commander was among the two ultras slain in an encounter in Kulgam, the police said.

As many as 133 terrorists, including several top commanders, have been killed this year so far, they said.

The 'fidayeen' terrorist was a relative of one of the accused in the February 2019 Pulwama suicide attack in which 40 CRPF personnel were killed, police said.

A police spokesman said acting on a specific input



Suspected ultra arrested in Khann Ganderbal

SRINAGAR: Security forces have arrested an alleged terrorist from Ganderbal district, police said on Friday.

The accused was arrested at a police check point erected near Khann in Ganderbal district on Thursday, the police spokesperson said.

The suspect, identified as Arshad Ahmad Mir, was booked under Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, and section 7/25 of the Arms Act as preliminary investigation revealed he was a close associate of terror group Lashkar-e-Taiba.

Police also found the Mir was involved in recruitment of his brother Latif Ahmed Mir in the group.

According to the spokesperson, Latif Mir was earlier arrested under section 13 and 39 of the UAPA and Arms Act at Kheer Bhawani Police Station.

about a possible terrorist attack and the movement of terrorists in the Bemina area of Srinagar; a checkpoint was established on Thursday to thwart such evil designs.

In the meantime, terrorists attacked a checkpoint established near Bund Bemina which was retaliated leading to an encounter, he said, adding further reinforcement was rushed to the spot.

In the ensuing gunfight, one terrorist of proscribed terror outfit Mujahideen Gazwatul Hind was killed and his body was retrieved from the site of the encounter, the spokesman said.

He identified the slain ultra as Amir Riyaz, a resident of Khrew Pampore and a relative of one of the accused in the February 2019 suicide attack in Pulwama's Lethpora in which 40 CRPF personnel were killed.

The preliminary investigation indicated that he

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LG calls for firm stance against Narco-Terrorism in J&K

Union Minister announces special aid distribution camps for specially-abled at Jammu, Srinagar

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI/SRINAGAR: Saying that malicious attempts are being made to push J&K's Youth into the menace of drugs keeping them away from the mainstream, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Friday called for taking a firm stance against drug abuse to give a befitting reply to Narco-Terrorism and bring back the misguided youth into mainstream arena.

"UT Government is making dedicated efforts through its action plans, innovative prevention & rehabilitation strategies, besides creating supportive infrastructure, and continuous awareness dissemination to eradicate drug menace from Jammu & Kashmir, the Lt Governor said while addressing the Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan awards ceremony held at SKICC Srinagar, through virtual mode.



LG Manoj Sinha addressing Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan awards ceremony at SKICC Srinagar.

The award ceremony aimed at acknowledging the contributions of District Administrations, NGOs, and Volunteers in eradicating the menace of drugs, where Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, Dr Virendra Kumar conferred Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan awards under different categories.

He extended his sincere gratitude to Union Minister Dr Virendra Kumar for his cooperation and support to the mass movement against drug abuse in 10 districts of J&K.

Drug abuse has emerged as one of the most serious social problems across the globe tearing apart our social fabric and posing a threat to

mankind, the Lt Governor observed.

The active participation of 3 lakh youth, 2.7 lakh women and more than 500 educational institutions have strengthened the government's efforts to combat drug abuse in J&K, he added.

The Lt Governor advised youth to move ahead, participate in the development process and be role models for others.

"I have full faith in the potential of the youth of J&K. We are committed to connect the present and future generations with the hopes and aspirations of their progress and build a society in which the Youth is the key driver of the development and prosperity of J&K", the Lt Governor said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has paved the way for combating drug abuse through the National Action Plan for Drug

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Govt directs HoDs to switch over to e-office mode before Nov 20

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Government of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir today directed left-over Heads of Departments to switch over to e-office mode before November 20.

"In terms of the Government Order No. 820-JK(GAD) of 2021 dated September 2, 2021 and Circular No. 37-JK (GAD) of 2021 dated September 20, 2021, all Heads of the Departments were directed to switch over to e-office mode of working with assistance/ handholding from the Information Technology Department within a week's

time. In pursuance of these directions, all HoDs, inclusive of move as well as non-move offices, situated outside the Civil Secretariat, have been provided necessary assistance, by way of provisioning of the VPN connections, creation of domain IDs (jk.gov.in email IDs) and training of local admins/Master Trainers etc by Information Technology Department," reads the circular issued by Manoj Kumar Dwivedi, Commissioner/Secretary, General Administration Department. Accordingly, it is hereby reiterated that

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ARTO, two MVIs suspended on corruption charges

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The government on Friday suspended an Assistant Regional Transport Officer (ARTO) and two Motor Vehicle Inspectors (MVIs) on charges of corruption.

"Pending enquiry, ARTO Kupwara Mohammad Mukhtar and two

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Srinagar records season's coldest night

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Srinagar city recorded the coldest night of the season as the mercury started its southward slide in Jammu and Kashmir, officials said on Friday.

Pahalgam, which serves as the base camp for annual Amarnath yatra, recorded a low of minus 3.4 degrees Celsius. It was also the coldest recorded place in Kashmir. Kupwara in

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WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)

Max: 27.0°C Min: 11.8°C

Humidity

Max : 68 Min : 66

Temperature (Srinagar)

Max: 15.5°C Min: 0.7°C

Humidity

Max : 90 Min: 76

Sunset : 17:34 Hours

Sunrise : 06:59 Hours

Kashmir: NIA arrests two more in terrorism conspiracy case, 27 held so far

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Friday arrested two more people in connection with its ongoing probe into a terrorism conspiracy case in Jammu and Kashmir, officials said.

The fresh arrests took to 27 the number of people arrested from different parts of Kashmir in connection with the case in the past one month.

Rashid Muzaffar Ganaie and Nasir Mir, both residents of Sopore township of north Kashmir's Baramulla district, were arrested during

raids conducted by the NIA in the valley on Friday, a spokesperson of the agency said.

"Preliminary investigation has revealed that the arrested accused persons are terror associates/Over Ground Workers of various proscribed terrorist organisations and have been providing logistical and material support to terrorists, the NIA said.

The NIA registered the case on October 10 with regard to a conspiracy to undertake violent terrorist acts in Jammu and Kashmir and other major cities by

cadres of terrorist organisations Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM), Hizb-ul-Mujahideen (HM), Al Badr and their affiliates such as the Resistance Front (TRF) and the People Against Fascist Forces (PAFF).

The spokesperson said the case relates to conspiracy both physically and in cyberspace for undertaking violent terrorist acts and the agency arrested 27 people in the case till now.

"These terrorists and cadres have effected several terrorist acts including killings of numerous inno-

cent civilians and security personnel, unleashing a reign of terror in the valley of Kashmir, thereby challenging the writ of the state, the NIA said. Three days after the registration of the case, the NIA carried out searches at 18 locations in Kashmir Valley and arrested nine terror associates. Four more arrests were made during searches at 11 locations on October 20. On October 22, eight more terror operatives were arrested during searches at 10 locations, while two arrests each were made in multiple raids on October 29 and 30.

J&K reports 158 new COVID cases, Ladakh 15

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir recorded 158 COVID-19 cases and zero daily deaths due to the disease on Friday, taking the infection tally in the union territory to 3,33,825, officials said.

Of these fresh cases, 26 are from Jammu division and 132 from Kashmir division, they said.

The officials said Srinagar district recorded the highest number of 73 new cases, followed by Baramulla with 31.

There are 1,364 active cases of the disease in the union territory at present, and the number of recoveries stands at 3,28,013, they

Over 111 Cr vaccine doses administered in India so far

NEW DELHI: The cumulative COVID-19 vaccine doses administered in the country crossed 111 crore on Friday, the Union Health Ministry said.

Over 52 lakh vaccine doses were administered on Friday till 7 pm. The tally is expected to increase with the compilation of the final reports for the day by late in the night, it said.

The vaccination exercise as a tool to protect the most vulnerable population groups in the country from COVID-19 continues to be regularly reviewed and monitored at the highest level, the ministry underlined. The countrywide vaccination drive was rolled out on January

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said. The death toll in the union territory due to the pandemic stands at 4,448, the officials said.

They said there were 49 confirmed cases of mucormycosis (black fungus) in

Jammu and Kashmir at present.

Meanwhile, Ladakh has recorded 15 COVID-19 new cases, taking its tally of infections to 21,098, while the count of active cases of the disease in the union terri-

Indian, French armies to carry out military drills from Nov 15 to 26

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: India and France will carry out a 12-day military exercise beginning Monday in the French port town of Frejus with a focus on counter-terror operations. A platoon strength of a Gorkha Rifles Infantry Battalion will represent the Indian Army while the French side will deploy troops of 21st Marine Infantry Regiment of 6th Light Armoured Brigade at the exercise, according to the defence ministry.

"Exercise Shakti will focus on counter-terrorism operations in the backdrop of semi-urban terrain under United Nations mandate with an aim to enhance military coopera-

tion and interoperability between the two armies," it said.

The last edition of the exercise was conducted at Mahajan field firing ranges in Rajasthan in 2019.

The Indian Gorkha Rifles has a rich heritage marked by its military valour and supreme sacrifices with a glorious history of 68 years. The French Army regiment has an illustrious operational history of more than 120 years and has participated in all the major wars involving the French Army.

The regiment specialises in amphibious warfare and has varied operational experiences in Africa, Yugoslavia, Afghanistan and Mali.



Prime Minister, Narendra Modi launching the RBI Retail Direct Scheme & Reserve Bank- Integrated Ombudsman Scheme through video conferencing in New Delhi.

safe medium of investment in government securities. Similarly, One Nation, One Ombudsman System has taken shape in the banking sector with the Integrated Ombudsman Scheme today, he said.

The Integrated Ombudsman Scheme seeks to merge other ombudsman schemes

One Nation, One Ombudsman System for the entire financial sector. Observing that one of the biggest touchstones of any democracy is the strength of its grievance redressal system, he said, the Integrated Ombudsman Scheme will go a long way in that direction.

"Similarly, the Retail Direct Scheme