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## Investments in J&K expected to reach Rs 35,000 cr by Dec: Sinha

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday said investments in the Union Territory are expected to reach Rs 35,000 crore by December 2021 and proposals for Rs 25,000-crore funding have already been received.

Sinha highlighted the key reforms and steps taken for managing the UT's economy during COVID-19, its growth potential and focus areas, besides putting across issues that require consideration by the Union government during interaction with Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, in a meeting chaired by her.

Highlighting the steps taken for growth in the economy, the lieutenant governor said "the investment in J&K is expected to reach Rs 35,000 crore by December 2021 and proposals for Rs 25,000 crore have already been received".



LG Manoj Sinha addressing during meeting of Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman with Chief Ministers and LGs.

He said that land has been approved for proposals worth Rs 1,700 crore. "Out of 6,000 acres of land earmarked for the development of industrial estates, 3,000 acres have already been identified."

On the steps taken for managing the economy, the lieutenant governor said a holistic package of Rs 1,353 crore was announced during last year for inclusive growth by which 3.44 lakh account of borrowers involving Rs 750 crore were benefitted by an

interest subvention of 5 per cent under business revival.

The Union finance minister held interactions with chief ministers, finance ministers of all states and lieutenant governors of UTs via virtual conference, with a view to enhance the investment climate in the country and to step up investment, infrastructure, and growth through a consultative process in the post-pandemic world.

Speaking on the tourism sector, Sinha outlined that

the J&K Tourism Policy 2020 has been notified to boost the sector.

He said the tourist footfall has increased manifold in the UT during winter months. From 1,935 tourists in June 2020, the number has increased to 12,82,572 in September 2021, he added.

Sinha also observed that the tax collection has shown significant growth and resilience and the UT is expecting to achieve the targets of the GST and excise collection over the remaining period of the year.

Elaborating on the key focus areas of the UT, the Lt Governor said that after the democratic decentralisation in the spirit of 73rd and 74th constitutional amendment Act, 14 sectors have been identified for investment at a large scale with special focus on tourism and employment.

He said export promotion for agricultural and horticulture products, revival

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## BJP pledges to cross 50-mark to form Govt in J&K

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Bhartiya Janata Party on Tuesday pledged to cross 50 seat mark in Legislative Assembly in the next elections to form the government on its own in Jammu and Kashmir.

"Before going home from this working committee every BJP leader must take pledge to ensure win of more than 50 seats in next Assembly Elections", Pradesh President Ravinder Raina said at the conclusion of 2-day 'State' Working Committee meeting at Vijaypur after adopting a Resolution.

BJP National General Secretary and Prabhari J&K Tarun Chugh, National Secretary Dr. Narinder Singh, Union MoS PMO Dr. Jitendra Singh, MP Jugal Kishore Sharma (former President), BJP Seh-Prabhari Ashish Sood, former State Presidents Dr. Nirmal Singh (former Dy. Chief Minister), Ashok



Senior BJP leaders during the 'State' Working Committee meeting at Vijaypur on Tuesday.

Khajuria and Sat Sharma, former Dy. Chief Minister Kavinder Gupta, General Secretary (Org.) Ashok Koul and other senior leaders inaugurated the meeting with lighting of traditional lamp.

BJP State Office Bearers, Morcha Presidents, Executive Body, Special Invitees, Department Incharges, Cell Convenors, former MLAs, former MLAs, DDC Chairpersons, DDC Vice-Chairpersons, BDC Chairpersons and other sen-

ior party leaders participated in the meeting.

While addressing the meeting Tarun Chugh said that BJP holds the distinction of being a party of activists serving selflessly and dedicatedly only for the welfare of the nation and the society. He said that in Prime Minister Narendra Modi led government, we talk of development of common people whereas the development was earlier restricted to a few chosen families. Now the people are fed up with dynas-

tic politics of NC, PDP and Congress and their leaders are deserting those corrupt parties. He held Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru along with Sheikh Abdullah responsible for series of ill decisions related to J&K which restricted development here. He stressed that those responsible for killings innocents will not be spared. He also said that J&K holds very special place in hearts of people from every corner of Nation and as such BJP activists

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## Efforts on to ensure accessibility of health care to all: LG

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Tuesday observed that Jammu and Kashmir Government is making best possible efforts to ensure health care is accessible to everyone in the Union Territory.

"I believe primary health care is people's movement and their participation, mobilization to access the benefits is a key to make this campaign a huge success. Sehat is a unique health scheme which does not discriminate and brings out the spirit of social equality in health sector. Good health

and well-being of people is the ultimate aim of the government," the Lt Governor said amid the launch of a public outreach campaign to raise awareness and highlight the flagship and other government schemes being implemented at the grass-roots level to empower the common man.

Among that 10-point campaign, specific focus has been laid to step up the targeted delivery of healthcare schemes for the poor and to ensure 100% saturation of eligible beneficiaries in a mission mode. The 'One Person One Golden Card'

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## Controversy over Hyderpora encounter; Police claim deceased were OGWs

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR/JAMMU: A controversy erupted over the encounter held on Monday near Srinagar following conflicting claims about the two deceased civilians as their family members contested the police's charge that they were "terror associates", prompting demands by parties like the PDP and the NC for an impartial probe.

Inspector-General of Police (Kashmir range) Vijay Kumar maintained that businessman Altaf Bhat was killed in cross-firing with the terrorists and though he expressed regret over the



IGP Kashmir Vijay Kumar briefing media.

death, he said Bhat would be counted among the "harbourers" of terrorists. "Let the post-mortem report come and we will come to know who fired the bullet that killed him," Kumar told reporters here on Tuesday.

He said security forces tried their best to evacuate Bhat and Mudassar Gul but could not save them "as the situation was bad".

"He (Bhat) had kept the tenants and the police had no information about it. The

responsibility of the owner does not end with renting out the place... He should also check once in a while as to what is happening there," the IGP said.

However, Bhat's teenage niece, who was an eyewitness, disputed the claims made by the authorities and alleged that he was used as a "human shield" by the security forces and later killed.

"You killed my innocent uncle Mohammad Altaf Bhat in cold-blooded murder in Hyderpora, you used him as human shield and now saying he was 'OGW'"

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## Two policemen died, four injured in road accident at Poonch

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Two policemen were died and four others injured Tuesday when their official vehicle skidded off the road and fell into a river in Poonch district of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said.

The accident took place at Drogzian village of Buziaz area when the driver of one of the escort vehicles of the Senior Superintendent of Police, Poonch, lost control, the officials said. They said six policemen were rescued in injured condition and were rushed to sub-district hospital in Surankote, where one of them was declared brought dead by the doctors and four others

were referred to Government Medical College (GMC) Hospital in Rajouri for specialised treatment.

One of the four injured policemen succumbed to his injuries at the Rajouri hospital, the officials said.

They said the police party led by SSP Poonch Vinod Kumar was returning from Peer Ki Gali along Mughal road where they had gone to provide security to the visiting Divisional Commissioner, Jammu, Raghav Langer. Langer along with DC Poonch Inder Jeet and SSP Poonch visited sub-division hospital in Surankote and enquired about the health of the injured policemen.

## Cold conditions intensify in Kashmir

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Srinagar recorded the coldest night of the season as the minimum temperature settled at minus 1.2 degrees Celsius, officials said on Tuesday.

Kokernag was the only weather station in the valley to record minimum temperature above the freezing point, the officials said.

The officials said Pahalgam, which serves as the base camp for annual Amarnath yatra, recorded a low of minus 4.7 degrees Celsius. Pahalgam was the coldest recorded place in Kashmir.

Gulmarg resort in north Kashmir Baramulla district recorded a minimum temperature of minus 1.2 degrees Celsius.

The mercury in Kupwara in north Kashmir settled at a low of minus 2.3 degrees Celsius.

Qazigund, the gateway town to the valley, recorded minus 1.8 degrees Celsius.

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**WEATHER**

Temperature (Jammu)  
 Max: 25.9°C Min: 9.7°C

Humidity  
 Max: 78 Min: 67

Temperature (Srinagar)  
 Max: 14.3°C Min: -1.2°C

Humidity  
 Max: 97 Min: 69

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

## J&K reports 144 fresh COVID cases, Ladakh 29

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday reported 144 COVID cases-125 from Kashmir and 19 from Jammu-- while two deaths have been reported in the Valley during the past 24 hours, officials said.

With this, the case tally has risen to 334432 while death toll jumps to 4455-2179 in Jammu and 2276 in Kashmir.

So far a total of 328433 patients have recovered including 115 recoveries in last 24 hours.

There are a total of 1544 active cases in J&K-228 in

PCI Fact Finding Panel arriving Jammu today

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Fact Finding Committee (FFC) of Press Council of India (PCI) is arriving in J&K on its five-day visit from November 17th to 21st for exclusive interaction with Media fraternity of Jammu and Kashmir.

The three member committee visiting the UT would comprise of Prakash Dubey, member PCI and Group Editor 'Dainik Bhaskar', Gurbir Singh, member PCI and Working Journalist 'The New Indian Express' and Dr Suman Gupta, Member PCI and Editor 'Jan Morcha'.

The FFC team would reach Jammu tomorrow and after holding scheduled meetings will be proceeding for Srinagar on

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## Cumulative COVID vaccine doses given in India cross 113.61 Cr

NEW DELHI: The cumulative COVID-19 vaccine doses administered in the country crossed 113.61 crore on Wednesday, the Union health ministry said.

A total of 61,21,626 vaccine doses have been administered till 7 pm. The daily vaccination tally is expected to increase with the compilation of the final reports for the day by late night, the ministry 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

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Jammu and 1316 in Kashmir.

Meanwhile, Ladakh has recorded 29 fresh Covid cases, taking the tally to 21,205, while the active cases

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## Azad pitches for elections, statehood to J&K

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BANIHAL: While terming the bifurcation of Jammu and Kashmir into two union territories as a major loss, senior Congress leader and former Chief Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad on Tuesday sought holding of elections to legislative assembly and grant of statehood to J&K.

Congress regime approved and started lots of projects and BJP is singing its own tune of development. Not even a single work has been completed by the BJP, Azad said, addressing the Congress workers at Banihal.

Expressing confidence that the people of Chenab Valley will decisively



Former Chief Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad addressing public meeting at Banihal on Tuesday.

favouring his party, senior Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad today said the voice that will rise from this region will become the

voice of the people of the J&K.

He said this is a historic opportunity for the people of Chenab Valley to assert

themselves and retain their importance in the political landscape of Jammu and Kashmir.

"People of the erstwhile

state in general and Chenab Valley in particular have always given me lots of love and affection and I have always tried my level best to serve the people with dedication and humility," said Azad.

Azad said the people of Chenab Valley fully reposed faith and confidence in the Congress Party and he is confident that people of this region will always stand for Party and will not allow exploitative forces to dilute its improved political status.

"I promise a new era of progress, good governance and better employment opportunities for youth if people give support to Congress in the J&K," he said.

## Two terrorist associates arrested in Sopore

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Security forces on Tuesday arrested two terrorist associates linked with the proscribed Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT) from Sopore area of Jammu and Kashmir and recovered a grenade and other "incriminating material" from their possession, a police spokesman said.

"Based on specific information, a joint checkpoint was established by Police along with 22RR and 179Bn CRPF at Shalimar Colony crossing area of Sopore. During checking, two suspicious individuals were apprehended," the spokesman said.

He said they were identified as Asif Rasheed War and Altaf Hussain

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