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Coming on
28th November, 2021
 FOR APPOINTMENT CALL
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02 Inter-state drug peddler arrested, over 19 Kg Ganja recovered

03 12.58 pc population poor in Jammu & Kashmir: Niti Aayog

12 Youth is future, hope of nation: DGP Dilbag Singh

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

LG calls for performance management system in every district office of J&K



LG Manoj Sinha during LG's Mulaqaat- Live Public Grievance Hearing programme.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Saturday called for putting in place performance management system in every district office in Jammu and Kashmir to audit, assess and improve performance and to evaluate efficiency and effectiveness of services.

Interacting with randomly selected applicants from across the UT during the

monthly edition of "LG's Mulaqaat- Live Public Grievance Hearing" and taking first-hand appraisal of the public issues and grievances through virtual mode, the Lt Governor passed explicit directions to all concerned officials in districts and secretariat for ensuring that public welfare services are delivered, and requests and complaints from people are responded to within a

reasonable timeframe. Terming 'Grievance Redressal' as one of the biggest aspects of good governance, the Lt Governor directed the Deputy Commissioners and officials to resolve public complaints promptly as soon as they are received.

In today's programme, a number of applicants got immediate relief as their issues got resolved on the

spot. One of the applicants namely Jawhara, a resident of Chanpora village, Kulgam, will soon get her house under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana Gramin (PMAY-G) that was delayed for several years. With the intervention of the Lt Governor, her case shall now be processed after inclusion in additional list.

Similarly, an applicant from Srinagar, Mohammad Syed Shah drew the attention of the authorities to the water scarcity issue faced by his locality, on which the Lt Governor directed the concerned Jal Shakti officials to resolve the matter within 10 days.

Mehraj Malik from Doda, has filed a grievance regarding non-availability of JKSTC Bus service from Bhalesa to Batiyas area. The Lt Governor directed Transport Secretary look into the matter on priority and start the service for commuters immediately.

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Conclude J&K delimitation process by Feb, hold polls right after winter: Azad tells Govt

'Our struggle will go on till statehood restored'



Senior Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad addressing a workers' meeting in Devsar area of south Kashmir's Kulgam.

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The Centre should conclude the delimitation process in Jammu and Kashmir by February and hold assembly polls immediately after the winter, Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad said on Saturday.

Addressing a workers' meeting in Devsar area of south Kashmir's Kulgam, about 75 kms from here, Azad also said it was not feasible to conduct polls during the next four months of winter.

The next four months are not feasible for elections and even if they (Centre) wanted, we would have said no. We all had said in the all-party meet (called by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in June) that the statehood be restored first and then the delimitation be taken up.

But, the government did not accept that. So, they should conclude the delimitation process till February and

once the winter gets over, conduct the elections in April, he told reporters.

The senior Congress leader said the priority was not who becomes the chief minister but how to restore the statehood, I have said it continuously and even in the all-party meet that even BJP leaders want statehood, he said.

He said the Centre's August 5, 2019 decisions to revoke Jammu and Kashmir's special status and

There is no fight on the statehood. Hindu brothers in Jammu, Sikhs, Muslims in Kashmir and even Pandits want statehood. No one should presume that only Kashmiris want the statehood, I have said it continuously and even in the all-party meet that even BJP leaders want statehood, he said.

He said the Centre's August 5, 2019 decisions to revoke Jammu and Kashmir's special status and

bifurcating the erstwhile state into Union territories was something that no one would have imagined.

"A lightning struck Jammu and Kashmir on August 5, 2019. Something which no one would have thought or guessed happened. Not just the people of Kashmir or Jammu or Ladakh, but no citizen of India would have thought that Jammu and Kashmir would be divided into

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2 HM terror associates held in Pulwama

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Security forces on Saturday arrested two Hizbul Mujahideen (HM) militant associates in Pulwama district and recovered ammunition and incriminating material from them, police said.

A police spokesman identified them as Muzamil Ayoub Bhat and Suhail Manzoor Mohand -- both residents of Shahabad Kharpora Bala Lalgam Awantipora.

"Two terrorist associates linked with proscribed terror outfit HM were arrested in Awantipora area of the south Kashmir dis-

trict," the spokesman said. Incriminating material and ammunition including 383 rounds of AK-47 were recovered from their possession, the spokesman said.

"The arrested terrorist associates were in touch with HM commanders & were involved in transportation of arms & ammunition, besides providing shelter and other logistic support to strengthen terror networks," he said.

A case has been registered and investigation has been initiated, the spokesman added.

DC Rajouri faced huge embarrassment, denied entry into police station

STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: Denied entry into police station, Deputy Commissioner Rajouri had to face piquant and embarrassing situation on Saturday when he was made to stand outside police station for over an hour.

According to reports, Deputy Commissioner Rajesh Shavan was not allowed inside the Rajouri Police Station despite disclosing his identity and ignoring the accompanied cavalcade ahead and behind his flag car. The matter was, however, resolved after the intervention of Adtl SP



DC's vehicle outside Rajouri Police Station on Saturday evening.

Rajouri Vivek Shekhar. To check the police working, Deputy Commissioner Rajouri accompanied by Additional Deputy

Commissioner and Assistant Commissioner Revenue reached the police station but was denied entry, an eye-witness told STATE TIMES.

COVID: 149 fresh cases in J&K, 32 in Ladakh

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday recorded 149 fresh COVID-19 cases, taking the tally to 3,36,386, while three fresh deaths due to the virus were reported in the past 24 hours, officials said.

Out of the fresh cases, 30 were from the Jammu division and 119 from the Kashmir division of the union territory, the officials said.

They said Srinagar district recorded the highest of 42 cases followed by 23 cases in Baramulla district.

There are 1,724 active cases in the union

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New COVID variant scare: Modi for review of plans for easing of international travel curbs; states take precautionary steps

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: As concerns grow over a new COVID variant, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday called for a proactive approach and a review of plans for easing of international travel curbs and urged people to be more cautious while several states moved quickly to take precautionary measures and remain vigilant.

Two South African returnees to Bengaluru, meanwhile, tested positive for COVID-19 and their samples sent for further tests to determine the exact vari-



Modi, who was briefed by officials about the recently discovered variant Omicron during a comprehensive meeting here to review the public health preparedness

and COVID-19 vaccination, also highlighted the need for monitoring all international arrivals, their testing as per guidelines, with a specific focus on countries identified 'at risk'.

Officials briefed the prime minister about the new Variant of Concern Omicron along with its characteristics and the impact seen in various countries, the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) said in a statement.

The implications of the variant for India were also discussed, it said. The Omicron variant, which

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Govt to introduce bill in LS to repeal farm laws on Monday

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: To repeal the three contentious farm laws, the government on Monday will introduce in Lok Sabha a new bill, which states that though "only a small group of farmers are protesting" against these legislations, the need of the hour is to take along everyone for inclusive growth.

The bill has been listed for introduction and passage in Lok Sabha on the first day of the Winter Session of Parliament on Monday.

The bill was passed by the Union Cabinet after Prime Minister Narendra Modi

made an announcement that all three farm laws will be repealed in the Winter Session.

The bill will be introduced by the Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar in the house.

The ruling BJP and main opposition party Congress have issued whips to their MPs to be present on the day.

"Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar will move for leave to introduce a Bill to repeal the Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Act, 2020, the

Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation Act) Act, 2020, the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Act, 2020 and to amend the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. Also to introduce the bill," Lok Sabha's list of business for November 29, states.

Despite the prime minister's surprise announcement to repeal the bills, farmers' unions have announced that they will continue with their protest until their other demands are not met. However, they have called off their proposed tractor

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Pak drone carries explosives, Indian drone carries COVID vaccine: Dr Jitendra

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Launching the Drone driven aerial delivery facility to transport COVID vaccine as well as Emergency Medicines to inaccessible and difficult areas in a short span of time, Union Minister for Science & Technology, Dr Jitendra Singh on Saturday said that while the Pakistan Drone carries explosives to spread terror and threaten human lives, the Indian drone has assumed the role of a COVID warrior to carry life saving vaccine and life saving medicines for safety and well-being of mankind. This indeed is the fundamental difference between the two countries, he said.

Referring to the first consignment of 50 vials of COVID vaccine which was dropped by the Drone near the International Border (IB) in Marh area, Dr Jitendra Singh said, the "Octacopter" Drone which was developed indigenously

at Bengaluru at the initiative of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research(CSIR) under the Ministry of Science & Technology, is truly a messenger of peace, while Pakistan is using Drone to disrupt peace.

The Indian Drone has carried to the International Border the message of protecting lives from COVID and, ensuring health and well being for everybody, he said.

Under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Dr Jitendra said, India's Vaccination drive has turned into a mass campaign and every citizen is trying to make an appropriate contribution to it.

"We, in the Ministry of Science & Technology, also decided to join Prime Minister Modi's 'Har Ghar Dastak' campaign by developing a Drone which would reach households in far-flung and difficult areas which lack means of transport and thus the Drone would



Union Minister for Science & Technology Dr Jitendra Singh at the formal launching of Drone-driven aerial delivery of COVID-19 vaccine, at Jammu on Saturday.

perform the function of knocking at the door of every home to ensure that not a single person remains without vaccination", he added.

On the occasion, Dr Jitendra, in the presence of Advisor Health to Lieutenant Governor Jammu &

Kashmir Rajeev Bhatnagar, formally handed over the first consignment of COVID vaccine to Drone operators, who then mounted the same on the Drone before it took off for its air journey.

Dr Jitendra said that the suc-

cessful aerial delivery of Covid-19 vaccine from CSIR-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine (IIIM), Jammu to Government Sub-District Hospital, Marh, Jammu, shows the commitment of the Modi Government towards healthcare needs of the masses in remote areas. The road distance from Jammu to Marh is about 15 km and takes 50 to 60 minutes by road, but the Octacopter delivered the vaccine within 20 minutes. CSIR-National Aerospace Laboratories (CSIR-NAL) and CSIR-IIIM have teamed with the Department of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of Jammu for aerial delivery of Covid-19 vaccine in remote areas.

Dr Singh said that delivery of vials of COVID-19 Vaccine through Octacopter will go a long way in fulfilling Prime Minister's "Har Ghar Dastak" campaign for special house-to-house Covid-19

vaccination drive. He said, India has administered over 120 crore total doses of the COVID-19 vaccine so far, but there is need for adopting unconventional methods to vaccinate 65 percent population living in rural and remote inaccessible hilly areas. The Minister informed that the Octacopter can carry a payload of 10 kg with range of 20 kilometers and it can fly at an operational altitude of 500 meters AGL and at a maximum flying speed of 36 kmph.

Referring to the recent monthly radio programme Mann ki Baat, where PM Modi said, "One of the things that is capturing people's imagination is the usage of drones in India", Dr Jitendra Singh informed that more such live demonstrations will be carried out by CSIR in actual remote inaccessible hilly areas like Kishtwar, Rajouri,

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WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
 Max: 23.8°C Min: 10.3°C

Humidity
 Max: 83 Min: 76

Temperature (Srinagar)
 Max: 13.7°C Min: 0.4°C

Humidity
 Max: 91 Min: 74

Sunset : 17:27 Hours
 Sunrise : 07:13 Hours