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Tussles, corruption, mismanagement, UU scams glaring in SMC

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Search intensified against history-sheeter Lau Gujjar; stolen two-wheelers, sharp-edged weapons recovered in raids

Vijay Hazare Trophy: J&K thrashes Baroda by 94 runs to script 2nd consecutive win

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

Drones from Pakistan more than doubled in 2022: BSF DG

Punjab saw 215 flights, Jammu about 22 this year

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The BSF has been "bombarded" by the onslaught of drone flights from across the Pakistan border on the western front, and instances of the aerial vehicles bringing drugs, arms and ammunition more than doubled in 2022, the force's Director General Pankaj Kumar Singh has said

He said the force has recently established a stateof-the-art laboratory at a camp in Delhi to study drone forensics and the results have been very encouraging.

Security agencies could track the flight path and even address of criminals involved in this cross-border illegal activity that is rearing its head over the last few years, he said on Saturday.

"The BSF has been at the receiving end of the drone menace for quite some time... the versatility of the drone, which is very well known, has



and quick flight at sufficient height bypassing the frontiers," he said. The DG said this while briefing Union home secretary Ajay Kumar Bhalla,

inaugurate the forensic lab through a webinar session. Quantifying the enormity of the drone menace, the DG said while the BSF detected

the development scenario

and implementation of

Verma enquired about the

grammes in the district.

Sponsored

who was chairing an event to

about 79 drone flights along the India-Pakistan interna-

tional border in 2020, it

increased to 109 last year

and "more than doubled at

266 this year". "The major culprit regions are Punjab which saw 215 flights this year... in Jammu. about 22 flights have been seen," Singh said.

"The problem is grave. We do not have a foolproof solution as of now. They (drones) have been bringing across tion, counterfeit currency and all kinds of things," he said.

The DG said initially the BSF grappled with the challenge of not knowing what to do and even when the drone fell they had "no clue" where

was it coming from or going. "We then started getting into the forensics part. We realised that these drones had chips similar to computation devices like computers and mobile phones. As digital forensics help in solving cyber crimes, we got answers here too," Singh said.

The BSF, tasked to guard over 3,000 km of the India-Pakistan International Border running across Gujarat, Rajasthan, Punjab and Jammu, first established a drone repair lab at Delhi in September last year and later enhanced it in October to analyse the forensics of the drones shot down or

J&K Police to procure mine-protected vehicles, other equipment to boost

anti-terror ops ■ STATE TIMES NÉWS

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir Police is all set to procure seven mine-protected vehicles (MPVs), five remotely operated vehicles (RoVs), and 18 under-vehicle surveillance systems (UVSS), officials said on

Sunday. The special vehicles and equipment will boost the security and surveillance abilities of the Jammu and Kashmir Police engaged in counter-terrorism tions, they said.

Police headquarters recently floated bids on the Government e-Marketplace (GeM) portal for purchasing the security equipment and vehicles. According to officials, the vehicles should protect police personnel against improvised explosive device (IED) and mine attacks

Besides, police are also procuring two bomb baskets -- designed to withstand blasts -- and 260 bulletresistant shields, for which bids have been floated, they

LG Sinha calls on PM Modi

Air surcharge 50 paisa for Leh

NEW DELHI: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Sunday called on Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the national capital.

"Lt. Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Shri Manoj Sinha called on PM Narendra Modi," the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) said in a tweet.

Earlier on Saturday, Jammu and Kashmir Governor Lieutenant slammed the previous governments in the UT saying "the system that prevailed in J-K earlier didn't work to establish peace".

The Lieutenant Governor added that the "situation is getting better now."

Addressing in 'Chanakya Dialogues' here on 'J&K -The Journey from Terror to Prosperity', Sinha said there has been a big change in Jammu and Kashmir due to steps being taken by Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led Centre, adding that "we are committed to bringing peace" in the UT.

"The system that prevailed



LG Manoj Sinha calling on Prime Minister, Narendra Modi at New Delhi on Sunday

in J-K earlier didn't work to establish peace. The present government is trying to establish peace," Sinha said.

The L-G said 500 new startups have been registered in Kashmir over the past one year and the region is ranked as a top performer in developing a strong startup ecosystem in the Union

Sinha stressed the need to take strict action against those behind the circulation of 'Hawala' money and providing support to terrorists.

"Unless the whole ecosystem of hawala money, the ones giving shelter (to terrorists), sitting on the other side and running the system, is attacked, these

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Union MoS concludes 2-day visit to Anantnag; reviews development

Centrally

STATE TIMES NEWS

ANANTNAG: Union Minister of State Cooperation and Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), B L Verma, on Sunday concluded his two day tour of Anantnag.

The visit was part of Centre government's ambitious public outreach program which is aimed at to assess the ground situation and take the feedback from the public and PRIS so that corrective measures are taken remove development

The Minister chaired an officers' meeting to review

16 bikes of stunt performers

seized in Jammu

JAMMU: In a crackdown

Nagrota Police on Sunday

seized 16 bikes of stunt

performers besides appre-

hending them, officials

As per reports, soon after

getting information that

some bikers are perform-

ing stunts in Sidhra road

area, a team of Police

Station Nagrota constitut-

ed under supervision of

SDPO Nagrota Pardeep

Kumar and led by SHO

Nagrota Inspr Vishav

Partap Singh assisted by

Incharge Police Post

Sidhra SI Majid Hussain

nabbed 16 stunt bikers

and seized their bikes

under relevant sections of Motor Vehicles Act at Nagrota Police Station.

Moreover, Jammu Police

has strictly warned youth

not to engage in such life

which can cause risk to their lives as well as oth-

threatening

Max: 89

activities

said on Sunday.

stunt-bikers,

STATE TIMES NEWS

Anyone casting evil eye on India now given befitting reply: Rajnath

STATE TIMES NEWS CHANDIGARH: Defence

Schemes and other pro-Minister Rajnath Singh on Sunday asserted that safeguarding national interests is implementation of Har Ghar the main focus of the BJPled government and anyone Nal Se Jal scheme and was informed that the schemes casting an evil eve on India is for the same are being implenow given a befitting reply. "India is no longer weak.

mented under JJM and are We believe in peace," Singh under execution. The MoS said that the schemes related said, adding that a befitting to this initiative must be comreply is now given if anyone pleted within the stipulated tries to harm us. Our soldiers have proved

timeline to ensure portable drinking water reaches each this time and again, Singh household in the district. said referring to the 2016 "Numerous revolutionary surgical strikes and 2019 Balakot airstrikes. steps have been taken He also mentioned about

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Defence Minister Rajnath Singh addressing a gathering after unveiling statue of legendary warrior Prithviraj Chauhan in Haryana's Jhajjar.

the bravery shown by soldiers during the Galwan Valley standoff in eastern Ladakh. Singh was addressing a

gathering after unveiling the statue of legendary warrior Prithvirai Chauhan in Haryana's Jhajjar. Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar and State BJP chief O P Dhankar were also pres-

He said to get rid of the colonial mindset, the Narendra Modi government has taken a number of initiatives, including a new Indian Navy ensign inspired from Maratha warrior Chhatrapati Shivaji, abolition of around 1,500 obsolete British-era laws, renaming of Rajpath as Kartavya Path and installation of a grand statue of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose at India Gate.

More than 1,500 ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Championship from today STATE TIMES NEWS try are participating in this JAMMU: The Jammu and

Jammu set to host National Volleyball

Kashmir November 14 to 19.

The Championship, being held in coordination with J&K under the aegis of Volleyball at 3:30 PM.

52 teams drawn from 26 States/UTs across the coun-

Volleyball Association is all set to host the 48th Junior National Volleyball-Boys and Girls--Championship at MA Stadium Jammu from

National Sports Council (JKSC), Federation of India (VAFI) will be inaugurated by Lieutenant Governor of J&K, Manoj Sinha tomorrow

sporting extravaganza, vying for the top honors

The participating States/UTs include Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Chandigarh, Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh. Karnataka, Jharkhand, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Odisha, Puducherry, Punjab, West Bengal, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, UT Ladakh, Telangana and

Uttaranchal and Jammu and Kashmir. The organizers have made elaborate arrangements

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Cong-NC Govts deliberately neglected hill regions: Dr Jitendra



at Ramban on Sunday

STATE TIMES NEWS

RAMBAN: Accusing the Congress-National Conference governments in the past of deliberately neglecting the hill region. Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology and Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel. Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh said here Sunday

Public Pensions, that the Conference governments in the past deliberately neglect-

ed hill regions while Prime Minister Narendra Modi give a special focus to these areas. Addressing a public rally here after ceremonially walking through the newly constructed Jhula Bailey Suspension Bridge, which has replaced the earlier one that was declared unsafe, Dr Jitendra said, several decades old bridge was unsafe and accident prone but still none of the governments in the past bothered about it and allowed the national highway traffic to ply over it at grave risk to the general public. He

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Clash between students of J&K, Bihar in Punjab's Moga ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

CHANDIGARH: A clash broke out on the premises of a college hostel in Punjab's Moga district between students from Jammu and Kashmir and Bihar following the cricket T20 World Cup final match between Pakistan and England on Sunday, police said. The incident caused minor injuries to a few students, they said.

A group of students were watching the Pakistan versus England in the hostel of an engineering and management college. Pakistan was defeated by England in the match which took place

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Army's 'Dil Maange More' short film festival begins at Udhampur

STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: The Indian Army has started a short film festival 'Dil Maange More', aimed at empowering young filmmakers from Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh

The Dil Maange More Film (DMMSFF) is an initiative of the Northern Command of the Indian Army

On the opening day of the festival on Saturday, masterclasses by award-winning and renowned filmmakers like Imtiaz Ali and Rahul Mittra were organised, offi-



GoC 71-sub area, Major General S S Patil along with filmmakers Imtiaz Ali, Rahul Mittra and others during opening day of festival in Udhampur.

"The first ever 'Dil Maange More' short film festival conducted by the Northern Command opened to a fantastic response by the youth of Jammu, Kashmir and

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Time for Govt to issue advisory against non-local workforce proceeding to Kashmir



JAMMU: Yet another Jihadi attack in Kashmir and yet again non-local labourers Chotta Prasad and Govind of Uttar Pradesh became the fodder of radical guns Annantnag village last evening. They were, however, luckier than Ram Sagar and Manish Kumar of the same

state for not succumbing to their injuries, like they did less than a month ago on October 18, much to the discomfort of Jihadis and perhaps vast mass of their sympathizers in the Valley, notwithstanding the fact that they were serving the population in their orchards, paddy fields, construction sites and what not, just to earn two time meals for their families back home.

The selective killing of non-locals has hugely endangered their movement, especially in the countryside

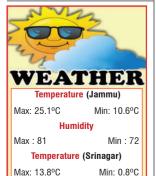
The target attacks on non-locals in Kashmir are not new. This has become a new norm with the alarming rise in such incidents in recent times, which does not bother either the Kashmiris or the administration. No political, religious or social organisation finds it necessary or strategically feasible to come

forward and take a stand against terrorists, as their gruesome acts ultimately puts common Kashmiri to lot of miseries. This may be because of their subtle support to Jihad. Ironically, the common people also prefer to ignore these inhuman attacks, knowing well that such a scenario will jeopardize the security of their kith and kin in the rest of the country as retaliation. Resultantly, the attacks have become more rampant and widespread. The security forces cannot guard every single labour, like they do in case of most of the caged employees under the Prime Minister's Package or those appointed in terms of the quota in reserved categories. So, if the citizens of India can't be assured security in their own country, why should they be pushed to death traps? By doing so, the administration is inadvertently becoming a party to the butchering of its citizens. It is a crime and needs course correction. If the government feels genuine threat to the non-local residents of India in the Valley, based on intelligence inputs, it must issue an emergent advisory to them not to visit Kashmir till the situation becomes conducive for their safe stay. Obviously, such a measure will raise many eyebrows especially of the pseudo seculars, politicians and activists. Some in the Valley may attribute it to 'persecution of Kashmiris, economic blockade' and what

not but that should not deter the administration from fulfilling its obligations towards security of the

Safety of citizens is the primary obligation of any government across the world. Time and again, the governments have been issuing advisories to their subjects against visiting hostile places. Kashmir is integral to India but the vitiated security scenario has potential threat to life and safety of innocent citizens. especially the workforce, who despite serving the people do not enjoy their affection and sympathy. Sympathy lies for gun-toting Jihadis, who evoke massive protests in case of deaths with almost the entire population of the area thronging to attend funerals. Burhan Wani's funeral, like numerous others, is a case in point. In the case of brutal, inhuman and barbaric killing of non-local labourers, no protests have ever been seen in the Valley; no tears drop on seeing the poor young people falling prey to Jihadi guns or no word of public condemnation comes in the wake such killings. If the people prefer to be so cruel and ruthless, why should the poor labourers be risked to serve them? Of course, such an option will mean doom for the Kashmir economy and way of life, as the Valley is totally dependent on the non-Kashmiri workforce in every sphere and sector? From brick kilns to apple orchards, from domestic chorus to paddy fields, from construction work to animal rearing-in every activity non locals are visible. Such is the dependence that even baby sitters and workers in traditional Kashmir crafts are from various parts of India. The only field that is forbidden for non-Kashmiris is perhaps the terror factory, which remains exclusive domain for the foreign Jihadis and their radicalised lackeys in the Valley, who keep giving new dimensions to over three decade long terrorism.

What does exodus of non-Kashmiri workforce mean for the Valley? To understand this, it is imperative to note that the Valley has given send off to skilled professions like masonry and carpentry after the flow of money through various channels and dawning of luxury among the majority of people. The local labour force is hardly to be seen anywhere. Even the peasantry is in the hands of non-locals. The local produce like vegetables, eggs, sheep, rice, atta and almost every eatable reaches the Valley from outside. The dependence is so enormous that the situation on account of essential commodities becomes precarious whenever high way gets blocked due to weather vagaries. Exodus of the workforce will mean paralysis to normal way of life with the economy coming to abrupt standstill. If so, let it. The people cannot have a cake and eat that too.



Sunset: 17:33 Hours

Sunrise: 07:00 Hours