Air surcharge 50 paisa for Leh Advisor Bhatnagar inaugurates 48th Junior **National Volleyball Championship**

Finland Minister calls on Dr Jitendra, UU seeks enhanced bilateral cooperation

Regd. No. L-29/JK-346/22-24

Suspicious bag create panic in **Phallian Mandal**

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Cooperatives best medium to reach out to far-flung areas, marginalized sections: LG



LG Manoj Sinha speaking at inaugural ceremony of 69th Cooperative Week celebrations.

STATE TIMES NEWS

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday said that cooperatives are perhaps the best medium to reach out to the far-flung areas of Jammu & Kashmir, especially the poor and marginalized sections.

"In the era of Startups and Unicorns, we need to meet the aspiration of youth and cooperatives need to con-

the Lieutenant Governor said while inaugurating the 69th All India Cooperative Week celebrations across the UT of J&K, during a function at General Zorawar Singh Auditorium.

University of Jammu, adding that the cooperatives should be established as one of the pillars for economic and social development.

The Lt Governor com-

being played by all stakeholders associated with the cooperative movement in building a strong eco-system for growth of cooperative sector in the UT.

He said that the Jan-Andolan for promotion of social-enterprises, its values, and principles to establish equality, equity, and solidarity are pivotal for bringing socio-economic development

Underthe guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Home Modi and Cooperation Minister, Amit Shah, the Cooperatives are being transformed as an effective economic instrument for ensuring growth in sectors like agriculture, handicraft, sugar, dairy, textiles, fisheries, storage, food processing and upliftment of small & marginal farmers, he

Highlighting the achievements made under the Cooperative sector in the UT, the Lt Governor shared the government's vision to strengthen the cooperative movement inKashmir.

This year's theme "India@75: Growth of Cooperatives & Future Ahead" is our resolve to build a resilient and viable busiecosystem Cooperatives with special

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Nehru's taking Kashmir issue to international forum 'monumental blunder': Hardeep Puri

SRINAGAR: Union minister Hardeep Singh Puri on Monday targeted Jawaharlal Nehru over Kashmir, saying the decision of country's first prime minister to take the issue to a multilateral forum was a "monumental blunder".

"Why was the (Kashmir) issue taken to international or multinational fora. My information has been that then Maharaja Hari Singh was happy to sign the instrument of accession. That's what I have read as a student of history.

"But the political leadership in Delhi was saving they wanted it (accession) to be more broad based and therefore they wanted a plebiscite. So they wanted to take it to a multilateral forum. You cannot have a higher folly than that. I am using word folly very mildly," Puri told reporters here.

The Union Minister for Petroleum & Natural Gas



Union Minister for Petroleum & Natural Gas and Housing & Urban Affairs, Hardeep Singh Puri briefing media at Srinagar.

Rijiju fires fresh salvo on Nehru

NEW DELHI: Law Minister Kiren Rijiju mounted a fresh attack on the country's first prime minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, on the Kashmir issue on Monday, claiming that he moved the United Nations under the wrong Article after Pakistan's invasion, thereby making it a party to the dispute instead of an aggressor.

Rijiju also said Nehru let the "myth" of a UN-mandated plebiscite perpetuate and created the "divisive" Article 370 of the Constitution. "Nehru rejected Maharaja Hari Singh's plea to accede to India not just once but thrice," he wrote on

The Lok Sabha member of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) from Arunachal Pradesh also hit out at Hari Singh's son Karan Singh, saying he presented a "sanitised history, his cabinet colleague Kiren Rijiju on Nehru's handling of Kashmir that the Union law minister had expressed in an

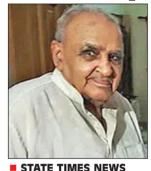
"Was it an error of judgment? You can say the man made a mistake but you cannot justify it. The historical facts are staring you in the face that making the reference (to multinational fora) and calling for a plebiscite is not a folly, I think it is a monumental blunder. So I agree with my dear friend and colleague Kiren Rijiju entirely,'

The minister said it was because of the mistake made by Nehru that Pakistan was able to foment trouble in Jammu and Kashmir.

"Because you made that mistake, other people took advantage of it. One country has been using terror as an instrument of state policy. I have said it 20 years ago. On BBC Hard Talk', I said

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Veteran Journalist Gopal Sachar passes away



STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Veteran Journalist and Resident Editor Hind Samachar J&K Edition, Gopal Dass Sachar, passed away on Monday at his resi-

Born in at village Bhalwal in Tehsil Akhnoor of District

Will contest next LS polls

from Srinagar: Mann

Shiromani Akali Dal (A)

president Simranjit Singh

Mann on Monday slammed

the central government over

being "denied entry" into

Kashmir and said he is going

to fight the 2024 Lok Sabha

The radical Sikh leader

had moved a local court in

Kathua last month after dis-

trict authorities did not per-

mit him to visit the Valley

citing pwsossible distur-

bance. The member of par-

liament from Sangrur in

Punjab had reached Kathua

to appear before the chief

judicial magistrate but was

not allowed to move out of

the hotel. However, his rep-

resentatives appeared in the court which decided to hear

Talking to reporters before

leaving for his home state

Punjab, Mann said he is an

elected member of parlia-

ment and was planning to

Temperature (Srinagar)

Sunset: 17:33 Hours

Sunrise: 07:00 Hours

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Min · 74

Min: 3.4°C

Min: 84

visit Kashmir to know

Max: 97

Max: 8.5°C

Max: 94

the case on November 29.

election from Srinagar.

STATE TIMES NEWS KATHUA/JAMMU

Jammu on July 27, 1927, Gopal Dass Sachar started his journalistic career as cor-BHADARWAH/JAMMU:

Samachar'. The Veteran Journalist and Resident Editor Hind Samachar J&K Edition, was accredited $_{\mathrm{by}}$ Government of Jammu and Kashmir.

During 1949, he came into the contact of senior leaders of Praja Parishad where he was given the job of preparing the posters for the party. He was jailed for three times and was tortured by the then Government for

PWD SE, XEn, AEE among 4 killed in road mishap

LG Sinha, Jitendra, Azad express grief

STATE TIMES NEWS

respondent of Jalandhar Four senior officials of the based News Paper 'Hind Roads and Buildings department were killed on Monday after their vehicle skidded off a road and plunged into a deep gorge in Jammu and Kashmir's Doda district, police said. Lieutenant Governor

Manoj Sinha and Union min-Jitendra expressed their grief over the accident, and termed the death of the officials as a huge loss to the department and the society. The accident occurred near

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Kishtwar national highway at around 10.45 am, local Station House Bhuvinder Kotwal said.

He said the vehicle, carrying the four-member team including three senior officers, rolled down 200-metre into the gorge, resulting in the death of executive engineer Rafiq Shah from

Poonch, assistant executive engineer Kamal Kishore Sharma from Udhampur and driver Mohd Hafeez of Doda. Superintending engineer Suresh Kumar was critically injured in the accident. He rushed to Government Medical College hospital in Jammu but succumbed to injuries, the offi-

Three officers posted

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Government on Monday posted three officers in J&K Board of Professional Examinations Entrance (JKBOPEE). According to order issued by Dr. Piyush Singla, Secretary, General Administration Department, Mulkh Raj Sharma, Private Secretary, in the office of Chief Conservator of Forests, Jammu, Vikrant Singh, Head Assistant, in the Government College of Engineering & Technology, Jammu and Imtiyaz Ahmad Parray, Senior Assistant in the Estates Department has been transferred and posted in the J&K Board of Professional Entrance Examinations (JKBOPEE).

cial said "Kumar was brought to the

GMC with critical injuries and breathed his last at around 7.20 pm," hospital principal Dr Shashi Sudan Sharma told PTI.

Block Medical Officer (BMO), Assar, Dr Tanveer Ahmad had earlier said the injured official is being referred to GMC hospital Jammu for specialised treat-

The BMO said Kumar's condition is stable but he would be referred to GMC hospital as the CT scan facility is not available here

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Bank loan fraud: ED files charge-sheet against Jammu group, promoters ■ STATE TIMES NEWS Directorate (ED) said in a

DELHI:

statement. chargesheet under the anti-The court of Principal money laundering law has Sessions Judge, Jammu took been filed against the procognisance moters of a Jammu-based chargesheet, filed under varibusiness group in a case ous sections of the linked to an alleged bank Prevention of loan fraud involving an amount of more than Rs 91 November 7. crore, the ED said Monday. Those named in the prosecution complaint include Raj Kumar Gupta, Radhika and the money-laundering Mahajan, Rajat Mahajan, Jhelum Industries, Jhelum

Laundering Act (PMLA) on The case pertains to an alleged loan fraud of Rs 91.5crore at the Bank of India

Money

case stems from four FIRs filed by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) against the accused. The ED probe found that

there was alleged

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Tehsildar Bahu caught red-handed by ACB; searches conducted at his office, house plainant to Tehsildar Bahu.

Assar on the Batote-

Singh

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Within three days of the arrest of DvSP Crime Branch for taking bribe, the Anti Corruption Bureau (ACB) arrested Tehsildar Jammu City (Bahu) Rohit Sharma red-handed while accepting bribe on Monday evening.

It was alleged that Rohit Sharma had demanded Rs 50,000 from a person in lieu of issuing Fard.

apprehending AfterTehsildar Rohit Sharma, the ACB team not only raided his office but also his house and collected evidence from there.

According to the information received from ACB, a person living in R S Pura had bought land in City South. When he went to Tehsildar Bahu for transferring land in his name, the Tehsildar demanded Rs one lakh as bribe and thereafter a deal was settled at Rs 50 thousand.

The complainant, meanwhile, approached the ACB and lodged a complaint against Rohit for demanding bribe.

After this, at around six o'clock on Monday evening, the ACB sent the com-

As soon as the bribe amount was given to Tehsildar, ACB DySP Sunny Gupta, along with Inspector Jitendra Rana arrested the Tehsildar with the bribe amount. ACB carried out this action in the presence of independent witnesses.

Some incriminating material and revenue record has been seized. "The revenue documents will be scrutinized in detail to ascertain any connection with the lost revenue records pertaining to Jammu south area", the

in JKBOPEE

Religious conversion by force, allurement or fraudulent means 'very serious' matter: SC **STATE TIMES NEWS**

NEW DELHI: Terming

forced religious conversion a "very serious" issue, the Supreme Court on Monday took a serious note of such proselytisation through deception. allurement and intimidation, and asked the Centre to step in and make sincere efforts to check the practice.

It warned a "very difficult situation" will emerge if such religious conversions are not stopped as they may pose a danger to national security and the fundamental right of citizens

to freedom of religion and

Infra Projects India Private

Limited, I D Sood Ispat

Private Limited and New

Jammu Flour Mills Private

Limited, the Enforcement

A bench of Justices M R ter. Sincere efforts are to be



Shah and Hima Kohli asked Solicitor General Tushar

through allurement. "This is a very serious mat-

> made by the Centre to stop forced conversions. Otherwise very difficult situation will come. Tell us what action do you propose....You have to step in," the bench observed.

before the top court that the issue was debated even in the Constituent Assembly "There were two Acts. One

J&K: Major highways closed, high-altitude villages cut-off after snowfall, rains

STATE TIMES NEWS

authorities closing schools for Monday in some districts as a precautionary measure. The weather will be over-

cast with the possibility of more rains or snow for most part of the day, according to the meteorological office. While traffic movement was suspended on the

adjoining areas, the Jammu-

Srinagar highway was closed

after heavy rains triggered

shooting stones and mud-

slides between Chanderkot

trict, officials said Srinagar-Leh highway due to snowfall in Sonamarg and

The Mughal road, an alternative link between Poonch and Rajouri in Jammu region and south Kashmir's Shopian district, was closed following accumulation of snow at Pir Ki Gali and adjoining areas, they said, adding that the Bandipora-Gurez road was also shut due to prevailing weather condi-

Snowfall has been reported

Pazipora and Tangdhar areas

Kralpora,

received heavy snowfall. Around six inches of snow was recorded in the ski resort Kahsmir's Baramulla while Gurez and Machil have received over 12 inches of

The heavy snowfall has resulted in many far-flung areas in the higher reaches being cut off from district headquarters, the officials

From Tuesday till Friday,

the weather will be partly cloudy, after which there is a possibility of light to moderate rain or snow on Saturday. However, there is no forecast of any major snow spell till November 20, the meteorological office said.

Reports of snowfall were also received from the highaltitude areas of Ramban, Udhampur, Kishtwar, Doda and Kathua districts and hill resorts of Patnitop, Sinthan and Banihal, while the plains, including Jammu, were lashed by rains early

"Weather is overcast in most parts of Jammu and Kashmir with snowfall over higher reaches and rains in

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9



SRINAGAR/JAMMU: Major highways were closed and villages in high-altitude areas cut off due to heavy overnight snowfall and rains in Jammu and Kashmir, with

Jammu-Srinagar Nation Highway shut after mud-slides in Ramban district on Monday.

and Banihal in Ramban dis-

tions. at many places, including

Handwara,

of Kupwara district in north Kashmir, Tangmarg in Baramulla district, and the Khansahib area of central Kashmir's Budgam, for the first time this season, the officials said.

Most high-altitude areas of and Kashmir Gulmarg in north snow, they said.

plains. Same weather is