

**03** BJP to give priority to women reforms, StartUps, farmers: Dr Jitendra

**09** R S Pura arms recovery case: Accused took money from relative before weapon dropping

**10** Gurburab celebrations held at JKPS Kunjwani

Website : [www.statetimes.in](http://www.statetimes.in), Email: [statetimes1@gmail.com](mailto:statetimes1@gmail.com)

## Multi-pronged approach helps reduce infiltration in J&K: MHA report

### Visible change seen in radicalised youth in Valley: Army

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

NEW DELHI/BARAMULLA: Multi-pronged approach has helped reduce terrorist infiltration in Jammu and Kashmir since 2017 with the number of such attempts dropping to 73 in the year 2021, according to a report by the Union Home Ministry. The annual report for 2021-22 made public by the ministry said the Centre in tandem with Jammu and Kashmir administration adopted a multi-pronged approach to contain cross-border infiltration. This included strengthening of the border infrastructure, multi-tiered deployment along International Border, Line of Control and near the ever changing infiltration routes, construction and maintenance of border fencing, and construction of culverts and bridges on nullahs. The efforts of the security

forces were further helped by proving of improved technology, weapons and equipment, improved intelligence and operational coordination, installation of floodlight on the International Border and synergizing intelligence flow to check infiltration and proactive action against terrorists within the Union territory, the report said. The government has adopted various counter measures to neutralize the efforts and capabilities of militants to disturb peace, besides encouraging policies to mainstream the youth, including providing employment opportunities to wean them away from militancy. While the number of infiltration bids in 2017 stood at 419 with 136 estimated infiltrations (terrorists who managed to cross over), the figure dropped to 73 infiltration attempts with 34 terrorists possibly slipping into the val-

ley, according to the report. Meanwhile, Army has stated that there has been a perceptible change in the attitude of youths who have taken part in 'Sahi Raasta', a civil-military programme to wean away the younger population from Kashmir valley who may have deviated on the path of radicalisation. The aim of the programme, run jointly by the Army and the Jammu and Kashmir administration, is to address the "cognitive behaviours of vulnerable youth" through the narrative of 'Kashmiriyat' for peace and prosperity, as an alternative to terror and death" and thus help break the "cycle of violence," a senior Army official said in Baramulla. "So far, 130 youths have undertaken this programme, since its inception a year ago, and visible change has been seen, both in terms of the psychological impact and the

correct way forward adopted by participants, barring a very small percentage in which no perceived change has been seen," he said. As part of the 'Sahi Raasta' (meaning correct path) initiative, identified youths who have either been radicalised or drifted on that path are brought back and integrated into the mainstream through a 21-day residential programme during which experts from various fields, besides, several senior Army officers interact with them. The initiative is also part of the two-pronged strategy of the Army in combating terrorism in the Valley. Earlier, it was through elimination of terrorists via military operations, but now the move is to also strike at the root cause of radicalisation among them, before vulnerable youths are lured into and radicalised to commit

■ **CONTD ON PAGE 9**

LG Sinha, Chugh extend greetings on Guru Nanak Dev Jayanti

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha has greeted the people on the joyous and auspicious occasion of Guru Nanak Dev Jayanti. In a message, the Lt Governor observed that Guru Nanak Devji's message of equality, universal brotherhood, oneness and compassion for all, continues to guide and inspire humanity. "May each one of us

■ **CONTD ON PAGE 9**

Al-Qaeda operative from West Bengal arrested in Ramban: Cops

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

RAMBAN/JAMMU: An operative of terrorist outfit Al-Qaeda was arrested with a hand grenade in Jammu and Kashmir's Ramban district, police said on Monday. Amiruddin Khan, a resident of Mashita Haora in West Bengal, was arrested by a police party from Ramban along Jammu-Srinagar national highway, an official said.

■ **CONTD ON PAGE 9**

## EWS reservation allowed but excluding SCs, STs & OBCs is to heap fresh injustice: SC

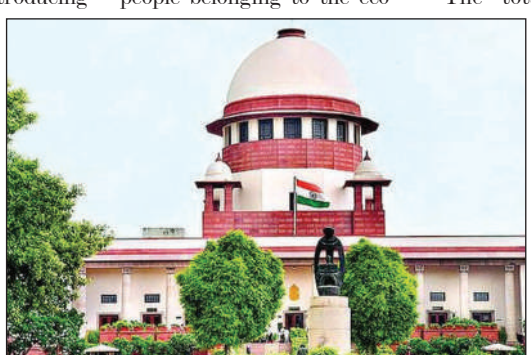
### Quota should not continue for indefinite period to become vested interest

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

NEW DELHI: Introducing reservation for economically weaker sections in admissions and government jobs is permissible but excluding SCs, STs and OBCs as they enjoy pre-existing benefits is to heap fresh injustice, the Supreme Court said in its minority verdict on Monday, striking down the 103rd Constitution amendment. While justices Dinesh Maheshwari, Bela M Trivedi and J B Pardiwala upheld the law, Justice S Ravindra Bhat along with Chief Justice U U Lalit shot down the same in their minority view. The judges, part of a five-judge constitution bench, read four separate judgments for over 35 minutes in the courtroom. The Supreme Court by a majority view of 3:2 provided

10 per cent reservation to people belonging to the eco-

allocated reservation quotas. The total and absolute



nominally weaker sections (EWS) in admissions and government jobs, and said the quota does not violate the basic structure of the Constitution. Justice Bhat, who authored a 100-page verdict for himself and Chief Justice Lalit, said the exclusionary clause operates in an utterly arbitrary manner as the exclusion operates against the socially disadvantaged classes and castes, absolutely, by confining them within their

exclusion of constitutionally recognised backward classes of citizens, and more acutely, Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) communities, is nothing but discrimination which reaches to the level of undermining and destroying the equality code and particularly, the principle of nondiscrimination, he said. "Introducing the economic basis for reservation as a new criterion, is permissible. Yet, the 'othering' of socially and educationally disadvantaged classes including SCs/STs/OBCs by excluding them from this new reservation on the ground that they enjoy pre-existing benefits, is to heap fresh injustice

■ **CONTD ON PAGE 9**

## 2 hybrid terrorists involved in planting IED at Bandipora arrested

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

SRINAGAR: Two 'hybrid' terrorists of the Lashkar-e-Taiba, who were involved in planting an improvised explosive device in Bandipora district of Jammu and Kashmir last month, have been arrested from Baramulla, police said on Monday.

The police have also recovered three remote-controlled improvised explosive devices (IEDs) from their possession.

A police spokesman said acting on specific information, a special checkpoint was established near Watlab Crossing in Sopore in north

Kashmir's Baramulla district. During checking, a suspicious person carrying a white bag and coming from Bandipora towards Watlab was signalled to stop. However, he tried to flee, but was tactfully apprehended by the alert police party. "He was identified as Irshad Ahmad Ganie alias Shahid, a resident of Kehnusa Bandipora. Two IEDs were found in his bag," the spokesman said. Preliminary investigation revealed that the accused is a hybrid terrorist linked with proscribed terror

■ **CONTD ON PAGE 9**

## SI paper leak scam: J&K Police ASI, CRPF constable among 4 arrested

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: An ASI of J&K Police, a CRPF Jawan among four were arrested for their alleged involvement in J&K Police recruitment exam wherein the entrance exam paper was leaked and sold to the Sub Inspector aspirants for lakhs of rupees.

Today those who have been arrested include Surrender Singh, CRPF Constable, son of Rajender Singh, resident of 102, Murlipur, Rewri (Haryana), ASI J&K Police, Ashok Kumar, son of Late Paras Ram, resident of Choudharivala, Pallanwala, Jammu; Bajinder Singh,

son of Sewa Ram, resident of 1694, Sector 9, Karnal (Haryana) and Pardeep Kumar, son of Ram Adhar Katiyar, R/o F-14, Madrari Colony, Jaithpur, New Delhi, packing Incharge, K V R Infosys (Printing Press).

All the accused were called in Jammu where they were arrested and produced before a special court after questioning.

The CBI probe in the scam has shown that Rs 20-30



**FOLLOW-UP**

CRPF, one Teacher of Govt of J&K, one Commandant of BSF and one ASI of Jammu and Kashmir Police.

Kumar, who was working at an Okhla-based Printing Press as packing in-charge, allegedly stole the question paper of the examination at

the time of packing and sold it to Rewari-based Yatin Yadav, who was arrested earlier.

Those who were arrested earlier include Dr Karnail Singh, Medical Officer, BSF Frontier Headquarters, Palour; Raman Sharma son of Chuni Lal, a resident of village Nore in Maira Mandrian area of Khour, posted as Selection Grade Constable (SgCT) in Jammu and Kashmir Police; Suresh Sharma, son of Ram Lal Sharma, a resident of Kaink Jageer in Akhnour; a tout and Jagdish Sharma,

■ **CONTD ON PAGE 9**

## Police files chargesheet against LeT terrorists for martyring soldier in Budgam

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

SRINAGAR: Police on Monday filed a chargesheet against five persons, including four Lashkar-e-Taiba terrorists, in a case related to the martyrdom of an army man in Budgam district earlier this year.

"Police today produced a chargesheet against following five accused persons in a case of terror incident in which one army man on leave was abducted and murdered at Lokipora Khag in Budgam," a police spokesman said.

Those named in the chargesheet included three terrorists who were killed in

an encounter with security forces a month after the soldier's murder.

While one overground worker (OGW) of the terrorists is in jail, the other accused -- a Pakistani terrorist who goes by aliases Ghazi Bhai, Pathan and Usman Bhai -- is at large.

According to the chargesheet, at around 21:30 hours on March 7, 2022, Khag police station received a missing complaint of an in-service army soldier Mohammad Sameer Malla, who was on leave.

"After three days on March 10, upon specific

■ **CONTD ON PAGE 9**

## Heavy snowfall in Gulmarg, other higher reaches of J&K

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

SRINAGAR: Heavy snowfall draped Gulmarg resort in Jammu and Kashmir in a white blanket on Monday much to the delight of tourists there, even as most places in the Union territory received snowfall and rains, bringing down the day temperature, officials said. Gulmarg, in north

■ **CONTD ON PAGE 9**

## Govt clears 23rd tranche of electoral bonds; sale from Nov 9

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

NEW DELHI: Ahead of assembly elections in Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh, the government on Monday approved issuance of the 23rd tranche of electoral bonds that will open for sale on November 9.

The Gujarat assembly elections will be held in two phases on December 1 and 5, while Himachal Pradesh

■ **CONTD ON PAGE 9**

**WEATHER**

Temperature (Jammu)

Max: 22.6°C Min: 18.1°C

Humidity

Max: 51 Min: 50

Temperature (Srinagar)

Max: 7.2°C Min: 4.2°C

Humidity

Max: 96 Min: 87

Sunset : 17:37 Hours

Sunrise : 06:54 Hours

## Skills are passport to prosperity and opportunities: Union MoS



Union minister Rajeev Chandrasekhar chairing a meeting.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Union minister Rajeev Chandrasekhar on Monday said young Indians must equip themselves with skills in line with the evolving times, in order to stay relevant for employment and entrepreneurship opportunities.

The minister of state for skill development and entrepreneurship said "skills are passport to prosperity and opportunities".

Along with education, it is necessary to possess a future-relevant skill so that it would be easier to remain competitive in the job market

or entrepreneurship fields, Chandrasekhar said while addressing students and staff members at the Government Polytechnic College in Ramban district.

Stating that it was Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision that opportunities for skilling should be available to one and all, he said the government was now offering 5,000 skills programmes -- both short-term and long-term -- for students and young entrepreneurs to avail. The curriculum has been changed and new, futuristic courses added as

■ **CONTD ON PAGE 9**

## Schools shut in Kishtwar, Ramban due to adverse weather

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir administration on Monday ordered the closure of primary and middle schools in Ramban and Kishtwar districts in view of harsh weather conditions, officials said.

Snowfall in the upper reaches and heavy rains in lower areas have triggered cold conditions in the districts.

In view of heavy rains, all primary and middle schools in Ramban district shall remain closed, they said, adding that students are advised to remain indoors.

■ **CONTD ON PAGE 9**

## Tackling unemployment, stepping dev in J&K top on my agenda: Azad

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

KISHTWAR: Chairman DAP and former Chief Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad on Monday exhorted the people to maintain communal harmony, brotherhood and work together for the progress of this difficult hilly and backward areas

Addressing mammoth public meetings at Kahara and Akhlyarpur of Bhalessa area, during his ongoing tour of the Doda district, despite heavy rains, Azad assured the people that on his return to power in the 'state', he will fulfill the mission of development initiated by him during



Chairman DAP and former CM Ghulam Nabi Azad addressing a gathering at Kishtwar.

the course of his short term as Chief Minister Azad said that tackling of unemployment, stepping up of development which

includes schools, colleges, hospitals and availability of roads and regular supply of electricity will be priorities

■ **CONTD ON PAGE 9**

## Jhiri Mela begins after two-year COVID gap in Jammu

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: The 10-day-long annual Jhiri Mela commenced here on Monday after a two-year gap due to the pandemic with thousands of devotees from across the country thronging the fair to seek blessings at Baba Jitoo temple.

The fair is being jointly organised by the Directorate of Tourism in collaboration with district administration from November 7 to 16.

The Jhiri Mela is held every year during 'Karthik Purnima' to pay obeisance at Baba Jitoo temple in village Jhiri to seek blessings. Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Ramesh Kumar, along with Additional Director General of Police Jammu zone, Mukesh Singh inaugurated the week long annual Jhiri Mela amid huge rush of devotees, an official spokesperson said.

District Development Council Chairman, Bharat Bushan; DDC Member Marh, Balbir Chand; BDC



Devotees assembled in temple to pay obeisance during Jhiri Mela in Jammu on Monday.

Chairman Marh, Surinder Bhagat; Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Avny Lavasa; DIG, Vivek Gupta; SSP Jammu, Chandan Kohli; local Sarpanches were also present at the inaugural ceremony. "All necessary arrangements have been made for the smooth conduct of

the Mela, which is visited by one lakh people per day from different parts of the country," Kumar told reporters.

He said since farmers mostly visit the Mela, the government has put up special awareness stalls to inform them about the new schemes and technologies introduced for their ben-

efit. Kumar said the key feature of the Mela is to promote the sports and cultural richness of the region to make this event accessible among the citizens.

Over 10 lakh devotees from across the Jammu region and neighbouring states including Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and Haryana are expected to take part in the fair to commemorate the sacrifice of the Baba, a farmer who gave up his life in protest against the oppressive demands of the 'zamindar' (landlords) about 500 years ago. His daughter, as per the legend, also took her life by jumping on her father's funeral pyre.

The devotees also take a customary dip in the Baba-da-Talab, a natural pond four km from the temple which is believed to have curative powers, officials said.

With elaborate arrangements put in place, the administration is anticipating a huge

■ **CONTD ON PAGE 9**

HAPPY GURPURAB

**RAKESH Jewellers**

Apsara Road & Lakhdatta Bazar