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

Suspected drone activity spotted in Kanachak at city outskirts

JK Public School Panjtirthi celebrates Global Family Day

Air surcharge 50 paisa for Leh

Website: www.statetimes.in. Email: statetimes1@gmail.com Cross border terror in J&K: Resolved to show 'zero tolerance' to terrorism, says Army Chief

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The Indian Army is resolved to show "zero tolerance" to terrorism and is committed to extracting "dire costs" for it, Army Chief Gen MM Naravane said on Wednesday, referring to Pakistan's cross-border terror in Jammu and Kashmir.

Addressing a press conference ahead of the Army Day, he said the concentration of some 350 to 400 terrorists in terror launch pads and training facilities on the other side (Pakistani side) of the Line of Control (LoC) and repeated infiltration attempts $_{
m the}$ "expose" "nefarious intents" of the adversary.

At the same time, he said last year's ceasefire understanding between the Director General of Military Operations (DGMO) of Indian and Pakistani armies resulted in some improvement in the situation along

"Along the Line of Control.

Threat in Ladakh has 'by no means reduced'

NEW DELHI: The threat in eastern Ladakh has "by no means reduced" and the Indian Army will continue to deal

Chinese military in "firm' and "resmanner. Chief of Army

Mughals too used Mughal Road only for

reaching Kashmir Valley and not to benefit locals

Naravane said on Wednesday referring to the 20-month-long border standoff that has seriously strained ties between the two countries.

Gen Naravane also said that war or conflict is always an "instrument of last resort" but if it is thrust upon India, then the country will come out victorious.

He said his forces have been maintaining the highest level of operational preparedness in eastern Ladakh and the threat assessment and internal deliberations have resulted in reorganisation and re-alignment of the troops

The Army chief asserted that China's new land boundary law was not binding on India and that the Indian Army is more than adequately prepared to deal with any military ramifications of the legislation.

after a heightened situation for a prolonged period, the

110 locations, which are dif-

Kailash

government policies, drives

undertaken from time

Greater

at achieving mutually beneficial, and sustainable peace," he said.

"Resultantly, the situation witnessed marked improvement. increase in the concentration of terrorists in launch pads, across the LoC and repeated infiltration attempts, once again expose their nefarious intents," he said.

Gen Naravane further said: 'We, on our part, have resolved to show zero tolerance to terror, and commit ourselves to extract dire costs, should that be forced upon us," he said.

In a significant move aimed at reducing tensions, the Indian and Pakistani armies on February 25 last year announced that they would cease firing across the LoC while recommitting themselves to a 2003 ceasefire agreement.

The Army chief said that the "proxy war" continues as terrorists are still there

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

India, China hold 14th round of military talks to resolve Ladakh standoff

STATE TIMES NEWS NEW DELHI: After a gap of over three months, India and China on Wednesday are holding another round of high-level military talks to resolve the 20-month-long military standoff in the

remaining friction points in

eastern Ladakh, sources in

the security establishment

The 14th round of Corps Commander-level talks are taking place at the Chushul-Moldo border point on the Chinese side of the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in

eastern Ladakh, they said. The Senior Highest Military Commander Level (SHMCL) talks were scheduled to begin at around 9:30

It is learnt that the major focus of the talks will be on disengagement in the Hot Springs area.

The Indian delegation at the talks is being led by Lt Gen Anindya Sengupta, the newly-appointed Commander of the Lehbased 14 Corps. The

CONTD ON PAGE 9

PM's security breach; SPG Act, Blue Book provisions are comprehensive: SC

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Supreme Court Wednesday said the provi- $_{
m the}$ $_{
m sions}$ Protection Group Act and contents of the Blue

Book are "comprehensive" in ensuring proximate security of the prime minister and other SPG protectees and any lapse in following these can lead to "devastating and serious consequences".

These observations on presence of adequate legal and other procedural schemes for ensuring security of the

prime minister and other SPG protectees were made in an order by which a fivemember committee headed by former apex court judge Indu Malhotra has been set up to to probe the security breach during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's

visit to Punjab on January 5.

the parties at considerable length and studied the provisions of the Special Protection Group Act, 1988 along with the relevant contents of the Blue Book. The

procedure to be observed by the state authorities and the special protection to ensure full safety and security of the prime minister while he is

ORTHOPAEDIC OPD Team Dr. Avtar Singh D.Ortho, MS, MCh Ortho,

+91-962296505

touring a state, the order said. "The additional

object is to avoid any human error, negligence or any willful omission or may hamper and/or expose the safety and security of the Executive Head of the of the nation while he is

travelling in a particular State. Any lapse in this regard can lead to devastating and serious consequences," ordered the bench which also comprised justices

Surya Kant and Hima Kohli. The apex court, while appointing the panel, took note of the war of words between the Centre

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

JSCL inks pact for installation of static advt panels at 110 locations in Jammu

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu Smart Ltd (JSCL) on Wednesday signed a pact for the installation of Static Advertisement Panels at 110 different locations here to improve the public information system along with enhancing the aesthetic value of the city, officials

The agreement was signed and exchanged between JSCL Chief Executive officer (CEO) Avny Lavasa and Buildwell Vice-President Jatinder Singh, the officials said

The officials said the static ad panels will be installed at **Mercury plunges**

below freezing point

across Kashmir

below freezing point across

Kashmir, with Pahalgam and

Gulmarg resorts witnessing

record low minimum temper-

ature this winter, officials

Kashmir Anantnag district,

which serves as the base

camp for the annual

Amarnath yatra, recorded a

low of minus 11.6 degrees

They said it was the lowest

minimum temperature of

Gulmarg, the famous ski-

ing resort in Baramulla dis-

trict, recorded a low of minus

11.5 degrees Celsius. It was for the fourth straight night

that the minimum tempera-

ture has fallen to minus 10 degree Celsius or below, offi-

Srinagar, the summer capi-

tal of Jammu and Kashmir.

cials said.

Mercury

degrees

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR:

plunged several

said on Wednesday.

Pahalgam in

Celsius, they said.

this year in the Valley.

J&K records 1,695 COVID cases, 1 death IIT Jammu to conduct all classes online after 18 tested positive at campus

STATE TIMES NEWS

DGMOs understanding in

ferent in sizes according to the available space as well as according to the aesthetic value of the city. The prominent identified locations are Kunjwani $_{
m the}$ Chowk, Gole Market, Tawi Bridge. BCto 3.48,201, official said. Road. Vivekanand Chowk, Bahu Trikuta Nagar, reported one fresh death due

Narwal and Indira Gandhi The installation of ad panels in the Jammu city is intended to disseminate information regarding the

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday witnessed a 50 percent jump in daily COVID-19 with 1,695 people confirming positive disease on Wednesday, raising the tally The union territory also

to the virus in the past 24 hours, they said. Of the fresh cases, 812 were recorded from the Jammu division and 883

from the Kashmir division, the officials said. They said Jammu district

in Srinagar district. There are 6,242 Covid recorded the highest of 438 cases, followed by 320 cases



COVID-19 testing in Jammu. (Pic by Shilpa Thakur)

active cases in the union ter-

The number of recovered patients was 3,37,412, the officials said.

The death toll rose to 4,547

Active COVID cases in country highest in 211 days Ensure adequate buffer stock of medical oxygen: Centre to states/UTs

STATE TIMES NEWS NEW DELHI: India added 1,94,720 new coronavirus infections taking the total tally of COVID-19 cases to 3,60,70,510 which includes 4,868 cases of the Omicron variant, according to the Union Health Ministry data

updated on Wednesday.

The active cases have increased to 9,55,319, the highest in 211 days, while the death toll has climbed to 4,84,655 with 442 fresh fatalities, the data updated at 8 am stated.

Of the total 4,868 cases of the Omicron variant, 1,805 people have recovered

the plots for the reasons best

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

as one fresh fatality was reported in the past 24 hours, they said.

According to a statement issued by the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Jammu, it will conduct all classes online after 18 members of the faculty, staff and the students tested positive for coronavirus

The IIT Jammu said it has been conducting periodic ${
m COVID} ext{-}19$ testing amid a spurt in the infection.

Out of RT-PCR tests conducted on 300 people last week on campus, 18 members of the faculty, staff and the students have

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Over 60,000 acres of encroached land retrieved in J&K: Govt The Advisor made the

STATE TIMES NEWS

legislative scheme of the Act

is quite comprehensive with

respect to ensuring proxi-

mate security of the Prime

Minister, or a former Prime

Minister, or their family

members, as the case may

be," the bench headed by

Chief Justice N V Ramana

The Blue Book contains an

noted

JAMMU: Over 60,000 acres of encroached land has been retrieved in Jammu and Kashmir, officials said on Wednesday.

R R Bhatnagar, Advisor to the Lt Governor, directed for creation of a dashboard for continuous monitoring of the removal of encroachments in the Union Territory.

Bhatnagar also asked the revenue department to red flag any instance of new encroachment orencroachment by fixing responsibility down the line showing no laxity in taking action against the responsi-

remarks while assessing the performance of the revenue department at a meeting here which among others was attended by Commissioner Secretary, Custodian General. Inspector General Registrations, Jammu and other officers of the depart-

sioners participated through video conferencing, an official spokesman said. He said the meeting was informed that 371901.1 kanals (46,487.6 acres) of state land, 110515.8 kanals

ment. Divisional commis-

(13,814.4 acres)■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

JeM terrorist killed; cop martyred, five injured in Kulgam encounter

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: A Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) terrorist was killed while a policeman was martyred and five people, including three soldiers, injured in an encounter in Jammu and Kashmir's Kulgam district Wednesday, police said.

Security forces launched a cordon and search operation in Pariwan area of the district following information about the presence of terrorists there, officials said

They said the search operation turned into an encounter after terrorists opened fire towards the position of security forces.

left the spot? This is really

shocking and raises ques-

tions on the working of

Vikram Singh further

added, JDA itself allowed

these encroachers to settle

on government land and

play- mute spectator when

public raises questions? How

can one encroach govern-

ment land and stay there

without the consent of offi-

cials. It's a land nexus as

there is some sort of Khichdi

cooking between officials

and these encroachers, oth-

erwise after court orders why

JDA is not acting tough on

these violators and retrieving

the land illegally encroached

by these people."

JDA."

Inspector General of Police (Kashmir zone) Vijay Kumar said one policeman was martyred and one Jaish-e-Mohammad terrorist was killed in the encounter. "One police personnel Sg Ct

got injured. Two civilians also got minor injuries. One terrorist of terror outfit JeM killed. Operation continues,

Rohit Chhib attained martyrdom, three Army soldiers

PM's Security breach

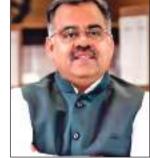
Kumar tweeted

Channi, Sidhu treachery needs to be exposed, was it to please Imran Khan? Chugh asks

STATE TIMES NEWS CHANDIGARH:

National General Secretary Tarun Chugh said Punjab Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi and his team was completely responsible for hatching a conspiracy to threaten the life of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and for leaving him stranded within the range of Pakistan

In a statement here today Chugh welcomed the highlevel committee constituted by the Supreme Court to unravel the conspiracy in the entire incident and to fix the responsibility of officers and politicians responsible for endangering the life of the prime minister.



Chugh said Channi demonstrated more abiding relationship with Pakistan prime minister Imran Khan by conspiring against the prime

shameful and disgraceful the way Channi

CS asks H&ME Deptt to activate war rooms, isolation facilities COVID specific medicines. response and various mitiga-

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Chief Secretary Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta on Wednesday sought immediate activation of emergency control rooms and decentralized COVID war rooms besides re-activation of Panchayat level isolation facilities and COVID Care Centres to contain the rural spread of pandemic.

Chairing the Covid task force meeting, the Chief Secretary also asked the Department to prioritize administering booster doses in vulnerable populations, besides, expediting vaccination in the 15-17 age group and replenishing the stock of

MALU SHARMA

the government.

Tall claims

JAMMU: While furious allo-

tees of Jammu Development

The Department was directed to ensure strict enforcement of CAB, COVID SOPs. and protocols towards ensuring the highest caution and preparedness and lowest

Additional Chief Secretary, Health & Medical Education Department, Administrative Secretaries of Home and Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation & Reconstruction along with other officers of H&ME Department were present in the meeting

In view of the surge in COVID cases, the Task Force reviewed the public health

tion measures being put in place for effective containment and mitigation of the

infection in Jammu and The Task Force was apprised that Jammu and

Kashmir has administered 1.94 crore vaccines to vaccinate 107% and 101% eligible population with the first and second dose, respectively. The UT is further speeding up its vaccination drive in the 15-17 age category and has already achieved 32% coverage. Dr. Mehta emphasized that Omicron has a growth advantage over the

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

JDA allotees staging protest in Jammu against encroachment by Guijars.

side JDA office in this regard but JDA has failed to provide justice to these allottees. While talking to STATE

known to those who remained at the helm of affairs in JDA. It is unfortunate that in 2015, we have done the registry and have done the payment but still we are not able to get the possession of our land. It is our hard-earned money and JDA is just making mockery and is least interested in resolving the issue. We are running from pillar to post till date. Yesterday also, JDA took initiative on court orders and launched antiencroachment drive in Roop Nagar. We were hopeful that now finally, we will be able to get possession of our land but we don't understand why suddenly JDA stopped the drive and without any reason

minister. He said it was not only

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Max: 6.7°C Min: -3.6°C Max: 92 Min: 59 Sunset: 17:46 Hours

Authority (JDA) plots of also recorded sub zero ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9 posh upper Roop Nagar staged a massive Dharna over halting the encroach-

Sunrise: 07:34 Hours

ment drive, Kashmir-centric People's Democratic Party (PDP) almost incited Gujjars to stand against, what it called, atrocities of

Government about providing good governance failed as JDA is denying possession of commercial as well as residential plots to a large number of allottees even after taking lakhs of rupees from them. Many times, these allottees have filed complaints, staged protests out-

JDA allotees decry derailing of anti-encroachment drive in Jammu PDP incites Gujjars to stand up against 'atrocities'

TIMES, Vikram Singh, an

allottee said, "Even after receiving full payment and 18 per cent interest on the delayed payment the JDA has not given possession of

Kapoor, another allottee ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9