

## 03 COVID+ve mothers deliver healthy babies at MCH Jammu

## 09 Army patrolling team attacked, Subedar injured

## 10 JK Public School Panjtirthi celebrates Lohri virtually with glee

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

# MEET WITH CMs: Modi stresses on localised measures to contain COVID



PM Narendra Modi meeting with CMs and LGs/ Administrators of States/UTs to review Public Health Preparedness to contain COVID-19 through video conferencing in New Delhi.

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday asked chief ministers to ensure minimum damage to the livelihood of common people and economic activities as they work to contain the coronavirus, while noting that its Omicron variant is infecting people many times faster than earlier variants.

"We have to be alert, be careful. But we also have to ensure that there is no panic situation. We have to see that in this festive season, the alertness of people and administration is not lowered anywhere," he told chief ministers at a virtual meeting to review public health preparedness and the ongoing vaccination programme.

In his remarks at the meeting, the prime minister underlined the importance of vaccination and the need to further accelerate the 'Har Ghar Dastak' programme to achieve 100 per cent vaccination coverage.

Irrespective of the virus variant, vaccine remains the only proven way to tackle the pandemic, and made in India vaccines are proving their superiority all over the world, he said.

"In order to defeat coronavirus we need to keep our readiness ahead of every variant. Along with tackling Omicron, we need to start preparing for any future variant from now itself," he said.

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## Ladakh Admn grants Rs 5L each to kins of 14 soldiers martyred in Galwan Valley

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

LEH: The Ladakh administration granted Rs 5 lakh each as ex-gratia to the kin of 14 soldiers who were killed in Operation Snow Leopard in Galwan Valley along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the Union territory, officials said on Thursday. As many as 20 Army personnel were killed in the operation while fighting Chinese troops in eastern Ladakh on June 15.

According to four orders issued by the Home Department of Ladakh, kin of 14 soldiers who laid down their lives fighting Chinese aggression in Galwan Valley were given Rs five lakh each as ex-gratia.

According to the order, the relief was given to Bikumalla Santhoshi wife of Col Bikumalla Santosh, Jageshwari Bai mother of Sepoy Ganesh Ram, Minu Kumari, wife of Sepoy Aman Kumar, Baby Devi, wife of Sepoy Kundan Kumar, Mamta Orang, mother of Sepoy Rajesh Orang.

Ritee Devi, wife of Havildar Sunil Kumar, Kapra Hansda, mother of Sepoy Ganesh Hansda, Rumpa Roy, wife of Havildar Bipul Roy, and Prakash Kaur, mother of Sepoy Gurtej Singh,

Indian Army conducting workshop for field commanders on negotiation, communication skills

NEW DELHI: The Indian Army said on Thursday it was conducting a workshop for its field commanders on negotiation and communication skills so that they can deal with "dynamic and emerging challenges".

A delegation of the Indian Army officers is currently holding the 14th round of talks with its counterpart in the Chinese Army to resolve the border dispute in eastern Ladakh.

The main focus of this round of talks is to carry forward the disengagement process at Hot Springs (Patrolling Point 15), military sources said.

The Indian Army said on Twitter on Thursday, "Indian Army in its quest for excellence and professionalism, is conducting a workshop for Field Commanders in negotiation and

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Weather

Temperature (Jammu)  
Max: 15.0°C Min: 5.5°C  
Humidity  
Max: 88 Min: 88  
Temperature (Srinagar)  
Max: 6.0°C Min: -2.7°C  
Humidity  
Max: 83 Min: 56  
Sunset : 17:47 Hours  
Sunrise : 07:34 Hours

# J&K records 1,996 new COVID cases, 5 deaths

## Rapid antigen tests mandatory for entering Kashmir hospitals

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir on Thursday recorded 1,966 fresh coronavirus cases, raising the tally to 3,50,167, while five fresh deaths pushed the toll to 4,552, officials said.

Of the fresh cases, 889 were reported from the Jammu division and 1,077 from the Kashmir division of the union territory, they said.

Jammu district recorded the highest of 434 cases, followed by 416 cases in Srinagar district, they added.

There are 7,932 active Covid cases in the union territory

The number of recovered patients was 3,37,683, the officials said.

The death toll in the union territory due to the pandemic rose to 4,552 as five fresh deaths were reported in the past 24 hours, they said.

In a related development, authorities in Kashmir have

Status of Surveillance of COVID-19 in J&K (UT) Cumulative till 13 January 2022 (upto 5:00 PM)		
S. No	Category	J&K (UT)
1	Persons enlisted for observation	5474555
2	Persons kept under home quarantine (incl facilities operated by Govt.)	7320
3	Persons Kept in Isolation	7932
4	Surveillance Completed	5020816
5	Persons under home surveillance	433935
6	No of Test Results Available till date	20079630
6.1	No of samples tested Negative	19729663
6.2	No of samples tested positive	350167
6.3	No of tests reported in last 24 hrs	71809
7	No of Active Positive Cases	7932
		Jammu Kashmir Total
7.1	Active Positive	4082 3850 7932
7.2	Recovered & Discharged	124555 113128 337683
7.3	Deaths	2213 2339 4552
	Total	130850 219317 350167

directed the hospital administrations in the valley not to allow patients and attendants enter the medical facilities without taking a rapid antigen test for COVID-19 in view of the surge in the number of cases.

In a circular, Director

Health Services Kashmir, M A Rather, asked all chief medical officers, medical superintendents, block medical officers in the valley to get COVID-19 SOPs/guidelines properly implemented in all healthcare institutions falling under their adminis-

trative control.

"Besides, they will ensure that no patient/attendant is allowed to enter the hospital premises unless & until rapid antigen test (RAT) is undertaken and masks are put on the face by them properly, the circular said.

However, in case of dire emergencies, the need-based protocols should be followed, the Director Health Services Kashmir said.

According to officials, the passengers will be allowed entry to Srinagar Airport only three hours before their flight departure as part of the measures to curb the spread of COVID-19 infection.

The regulation of the entry of passengers comes in view of some of the passengers entering the airport seven to eight hours before the flight departure time which leads to an increase in the crowd at the aerodrome. Singh

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# 7 Pak terrorists among 14 killed in 8 ops in J&K during 12 days: DGP

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Director General of Police (DGP) Dilbag Singh on Thursday said that 14 terrorists, including seven Pakistani nationals, have been killed in eight encounters in the union territory so far this year and asserted that anti-terrorist operations will be intensified to clear the region of terrorism.

The police chief paid tribute to police constable Rohit Chib who was killed during an encounter with terrorists in Kulgam district of south Kashmir on Wednesday. In the operation, Pakistan-origin Jaish-e-Muhammad (JeM) terrorist Babar was



DGP Dilbag Singh and other senior officers carrying coffin of Martyr SgCT Rohit Chib.

killed and five, including two civilians and three soldiers, were injured.

"This year, we have undertaken eight successful opera-

tions. As many as 14 terrorists have been killed in these operations. Among these 14 terrorists, seven are Pakistani terrorists," Singh

## NEET-UG counselling to begin from Jan 19

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya on Thursday said NEET-UG counselling will commence from January 19.

He extended his best wishes to students.

"Dear students, counselling for NEET-UG is being started by the MCC from January 19.

You all are the future of the country and I hope that all of you will give a new direction to your career with the mantra 'service is religion'. I extend my best wishes to all," Mandaviya tweeted.

## Ultra killed in Kulgam hailed from Pakistan

SRINAGAR: The Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) terrorist killed in the encounter with security forces in Kulgam district has been identified as Babar Bhai of Pakistan who was active since 2018, police said on Thursday.

The encounter took place in Pariwan area of the south Kashmir district on Wednesday after the security forces launched a cordon and search operation following information about the presence of terrorists there.

Killed JeM #terrorist identified as Babar bhai of #Pakistan, active since 2018 in the areas of Shopian-Kulgam, Kashmir Zone Police said on Twitter.

The police said an AK rifle, a pistol and two grenades were recovered from the site of the encounter.

A policeman was also martyred and five persons including three soldiers injured in the encounter.

"One police personnel SgCt Rohit Chib attained #martyrdom, 03 Army soldiers got injured. ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

told reporters.

The police chief further

said the terror modules

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# Arbitration can be set aside only if award is against public policy of India: SC

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: An arbitration award can be set aside only if the award is against the public policy of India, the Supreme Court has said.

A bench of Justices M R Shah and B V Nagarathna said the award can be set aside under the Arbitration Act, if it is found to be contrary to the fundamental policy of Indian Law, interest of country, justice or morality or if it is patently illegal.

The top court was hearing an appeal filed by Haryana

Tourism Ltd against an order of the Punjab and Haryana High Court which



set aside a 2005 award passed by the arbitrator as well as the order passed by the Additional District Judge, Chandigarh.

Haryana Tourism Limited (HTL) had invited tenders/quotations for the supply of Aerated Cold Drinks at its Tourist Complexes and the tender submitted by Kandhari Beverages was accepted.

HTL later terminated the contract after dispute arose between the parties and the matter was referred to the sole arbitrator.

The arbitrator directed Kandhari Beverages to pay Rs 9.5 lakh while the counter claim lodged by it

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# Kashmir continues to reel under severe cold wave

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The intense cold wave conditions continued in Kashmir on Thursday as mercury settled several degrees below the freezing point across the valley, officials said here.

Gulmarg, the famous skiing resort in Baramulla district, recorded a low of minus 11.0 degrees Celsius, marking the minimum temperature at or below minus 10 degrees Celsius for five consecutive nights, the officials said.

Pahalgam in south Kashmir's Anantnag district, which serves as the base camp for the annual Amarnath Yatra, recorded a low of minus 9.4 degrees Celsius, they said.

Srinagar, the summer capi-

tal of Jammu and Kashmir, also recorded sub zero temperature on the intervening night of Wednesday and Thursday as mercury settled at minus 2.7 degrees Celsius.

The officials said Qazigund, the gateway town to the valley, recorded a minimum of minus 5.8 degrees Celsius, while the nearby south Kashmir town of Kokernag recorded a low of minus 6.3 degrees Celsius.

The mercury at Kupwara in north Kashmir settled at a low of minus 2.5 degrees Celsius.

The MeT office said the weather is likely to stay largely dry over the next few days.

Kashmir is currently under the grip of the 40-day

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