

03 Omicron symptoms mild but spike in cases can create trouble: GMC

J&K records highest single-day jump of 2,456 virus cases

Highest 588 cases reported in Jammu Distt; 12 more areas declared micro containment zones; elective surgeries suspended in GMC

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR/JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir on Friday recorded highest single-day jump in the third wave of novel Corona virus by recording 2,456 new cases, officials said, adding that due to surge in cases, 12 more areas of the Jammu city have been declared as micro-containment zones while entry in the Government Medical College Hospital here has been restricted.

According to officials, 934 cases were reported from Jammu division and 1522 from the Kashmir division, even as five Covid related deaths were also recorded, three in the Jammu Province and two in the Valley. Highest number of 588 cases have been recorded in the Jammu District followed by 464 in the Srinagar District. Amid upsurge in Covid-19



A health worker taking sample for COVID testing outside Nowabad.

cases across Jammu, the authorities have put elective/routine surgeries on hold till further orders in Government Medical College (GMC) Jammu and its Associated Hospitals.

"In view of the existing COVID-19 situation, all elective/routine Surgeries in the GMC Jammu and its Associated Hospitals shall remain suspended with effect from January 17, 2022 till further orders," the order

issued by Principal and Dean GMC Jammu, Dr Shashi Sudhan Sharma reads.

"Only Emergency and Cancer Surgeries shall continue as per routine," the order further stated.

District Magistrate, Jammu, Anshul Garg has declared 12 more areas of the Jammu City as micro-containment zones which include Lane near H No 134, Kailash Nagar, Talab Tillo; Lane near 47, Shopping

Centre, Bakshi Nagar; Lane near H. No 116, Sector 04, Trikuta Nagar; Lane near H. No 73, Ward No. 03, Bishnah; Lane near H. No 80-B, Sainik Colony; Lane near H. No 118, Sector 08, Roop Nagar; Lane near H. No 53, Sector 02, Pamposh Colony, Janipur; Lane near 821-Sweet Home Apartments near New Birla Open Mind School, Channi Rama; Lane near H.No 419, Sector 05 near CD Gupta House, Channi Himmat; Lane near SBI Quarters, BSNL Exchange, Bantalab; Lane near H. No 343/B, Sector 01, South Ext. Trikuta Nagar; and Lane near H. No 568 A, Gandhi Nagar.

"The aforesaid areas shall be under strict lock down and tight perimeter control, except for essential

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'Budget session of Parliament from Jan 31 to Apr 8'

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The Budget Session of Parliament will commence on January 31 with the address of the president to both the Houses, and conclude on April 8, sources said on Friday citing recommendation of the Cabinet Committee on Parliamentary Affairs.

The Union Budget will be presented on February 1.

The first part of the session would conclude on February 11.

After a month-long recess, the part two of the session would begin from March 14 and conclude on April 8, the sources said.

Kupwara activist arrested for inciting violence using social media

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir Police on Friday arrested human rights activist Mohammad Ahsan Untoo for allegedly inciting violence through social media platforms.

Untoo, a resident of Kupwara district, is chairman of the International Forum for Justice and Human Rights Jammu and Kashmir. A police spokesman said, "It was reliably learnt that the Mohd Ahsan Untoo...a proactive secessionist, is an active participant and speaker at Twitter spaces, titled 'Radio Resistance Kashmir',

led by two known secessionists Muzammil Ayyub Thakur and Dr. Asif Dar." He said Thakur and Dar who are accused in several cases along with Untoo were actively spreading hatred against the Union of India on social media platforms.

By spreading false propaganda, disinformation campaign and hate speech through these social media spaces, Untoo is not only threatening to disturb the prevailing peaceful atmosphere of the union territory, but also spreading disaffection, ill-will and disharmony against the Union of India,

the spokesman said.

He said Untoo is also actively spreading the terrorist, secessionist agenda and is thus inciting the youth to resort to violence and indulge in unlawful activities.

"As the aforementioned activities by Untoo amounts to commission of cognizable offence by him, accordingly Srinagar Police...registered a case against him under relevant sections of the law, he said.

The spokesman said the investigation into the matter has been initiated and the accused has been arrested and is on police remand.

Modi to interact with more than 150 start-ups today

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will interact with more than 150 startups from various sectors, including agriculture and health, on Saturday via video conferencing.

Startups from various sectors such as enterprise systems, space, industry 4.0, security, fintech, environment besides agriculture and health will be part of

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Ladakh sees 124 fresh COVID-19 cases

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

LEH: Ladakh reported 124 fresh cases of COVID-19, taking the active number of cases to 598, while the total tally in the union territory has gone up to 22,773, officials said on Friday.

Twenty eight patients were discharged from hospitals in Ladakh, taking the total number of recoveries

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People perform 'Surya Namaskar' in parts of J&K; political, religious groups criticise

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: People performed 'Surya Namaskar' exercise in some areas of Jammu and Kashmir under a government initiative on Friday, even though various political and religious groups criticised the administration for it saying the move was an interference in religious matters.

An official spokesman said the Youth Services and Sports Office in Anantnag organised a large-scale virtual and physical performance of 'Surya Namaskar' by students and staff members on the occasion of Makar

Sankranti.

The exercise was performed at the district headquarters and some other areas of the district following COVID-19 guidelines, the spokesman said.

The participants showed a lot of interest in the event as they all believe that such events improve physical fitness, mostly when they are in home isolation due to Covid restrictions, he said.

The initiative was taken as part of the 'Azaadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav'.

Various political and religious groups criticised the Jammu and Kashmir admin-

istration's order directing college heads in the union territory to organise the exercise on the occasion of Makar Sankranti, saying it was interference in religious affairs.

The Muttahida Majlis-e-Ulema (MMU), an amalgam of several religious organisations, took strong exception to the order and said the authorities were well aware that Jammu and Kashmir is Muslim-majority and like people from other religions, Muslims will not participate in religious practices of other religions.

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Kashmir in grip of severe cold wave



■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The minimum temperature dropped at most places in Kashmir on Friday as the intense cold wave conditions continued in the valley, officials said here.

The night temperature settled several degrees below normal for this part of the season.

Gulmarg, the famous skiing resort in Baramulla district of north Kashmir, was the only place in the valley where the night temperature improved on Thursday night, the officials said.

The resort recorded a low of minus 10.5 degrees Celsius, slightly up

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PAGD postpones Jan 15 meeting in Jammu due to COVID spike

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The People's Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD) has postponed its January 15 meeting here in view of a surge in Covid cases, its spokesman said on Friday.

The meeting of the alliance of Jammu and Kashmir-based mainstream political parties, including the National Conference (NC) and the PDP, was to be held to discuss its "future plans", PAGD spokesperson M Y Tarigami said.

"We have postponed the meeting of the PAGD to be held in Jammu tomorrow in wake of the spike in Covid cases here" he said, adding that whenever the Covid situation improves, the

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Earthquake of 5.3 magnitude hits J&K

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: An earthquake of magnitude 5.3 on the Richter scale hit Jammu and Kashmir on Friday, but there were no reports of any loss of life or damage to property, officials said. The epicentre of the quake was in Hindukush in Afghanistan, they said. The quake of magnitude 5.3, which occurred at 9.43 pm, was also felt in Jammu and Kashmir, the officials said.

The quake hit at the coordinates of 36.37 degrees north and 71.5 degrees east at a depth of 81 km, they said. There are no reports of any loss of life or damage to property, they said.

IEDs found in Srinagar, Delhi flower market; defused

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR/NEW DELHI: Days ahead of Republic Day, the security forces on Friday detected and defused an improvised explosive device (IED) in Nowhatta area of the city, an IED device was also found at Ghazipur flower market in the national capital and defused subsequently.

"Police and CRPF detected a suspicious bag lying at Khawaja Bazar Chowk in Nowhatta area of Srinagar," a police official said.

He said a team of bomb disposal squad was called to the

spot, which "found a four to five litre pressure cooker (suspicious IED) in the bag". The bomb squad later destroyed the IED on the spot, the official said.

Meanwhile, in the morning, an unattended bag containing an IED device was found at Ghazipur flower market in Delhi, officials said, adding the device was later defused.

The incident comes ahead of the Republic Day celebrations in the national capital on January 26.

The security apparatus in the city is on high alert in the run up to the event.

Fire officials said they received the information of the suspicious unattended bag which was spotted in the flower market at 10.19 a.m.

A senior police officer earlier said a suspicious metal box was found in the market. The officials from Special Cell of Delhi Police, NSG's bomb detection and disposal team and fire tenders soon reached the spot and cordoned the area.

"We were informed by the Delhi Police about the suspicious object around 11 am. The IED has been

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Major Reshuffle in J&K Judiciary 10 Sessions Judges, 3 Sub-Judges, 28 Munsiffs transferred

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a major reshuffle in J&K Judiciary, 10 Sessions Judges, three Sub-Judges and 28 Munsiffs have been transferred.

According to an order, Sanjeev Gupta, Spl. Judge Anti Corruption (CBI) Cases, Jammu has been transferred and his services are placed at the disposal of the Chief Justice for his appointment as Registrar General, High Court of J&K and Ladakh; Ramesh Kumar Wattal, Chairman, Sales Tax Appellate Tribunal has been

transferred and posted as Spl. Judge, Anti Corruption (CBI Cases), Jammu; Kishore Kumar, Additional District & Sessions Judge, Jammu as Principal District & Sessions Judge, Jammu; Jeema Bashir, P.O. Fast Track Court, POCSO Cases, Srinagar has been transferred and her services are placed at the disposal of the Chief Justice for her appointment as Registrar Inspection, Srinagar; Jawad Ahmed, Registrar General, High Court of J&K and Ladakh has been transferred

and posted as Principal District & Sessions Judge, Srinagar; Aijaz Ahmed Khan, Additional District & Sessions Judge, Sopore as Principal District & Sessions Judge, Kargil; Deepak Sethi, Principal District & Sessions Judge, Leh as Additional District & Sessions Judge, Jammu; Sunil Sangra, Additional District & Sessions Judge, Budgam as Additional District & Sessions Judge, Sopore; Mohammad Rafiq Chak, Principal & Sessions Judge, Kargil as Chairman, J&K

Sales Tax Appellate Tribunal on deputation; and Om Parkash Bhagat, Additional District & Sessions Judge, Baramulla as Principal District & Sessions Judge, Leh.

Vinod Kumar, Special Mobile Magistrate (T), Jammu has been transferred and posted as Sub Judge, Leave Reserve, High Court Wing Jammu vice Sudesh Sharma, who has been posted as Chief Judicial Magistrate, Reasi; Adnan Syed, Chief

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NATIONAL HEALTH MISSION, J&K

Shri Manoj Sinha
Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor

COVID CONTROL ROOM HELPLINE NUMBERS

CENTRALISED HEALTH HELPLINE 104

Call Toll Free No. **104** → If you are feeling any symptoms
→ to find out where u can get tested / vaccinated.

24x7 DIVISIONAL CONTROL ROOM JAMMU

0191-2570034

DISTRICTWISE CONTROL ROOM NUMBERS

1	DODA	01996-233542 / 01996-233337	6	RAJOURI	01962-264544
2	JAMMU	0191-2571912 / 0191-2571616	7	RAMBAN	01998-266444
3	KATHUA	0192-2234314	8	REASI	01991-245669 / 01991-245770
4	KISHTWAR	01995-259555	9	SAMBA	01923-246915 / 01923-241004
5	POONCH	01965-222079	10	UDHAMPUR	01992-272727 / 01992-272728

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WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)

Max: 16.0°C Min: 5.7°C

Humidity

Max: 93 Min: 77

Temperature (Srinagar)

Max: 7.4°C Min: -3.4°C

Humidity

Max: 86 Min: 54

Sunset : 17:48 Hours

Sunrise : 07:31 Hours