

**03 IIPA organises 12th Sat Paul Sahn Memorial Lecture on Indo-China Conflict**

**10 JK Public School Panjtirthi celebrates Army Day virtually**

**11 Govt announces Subhas Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar for 2022**

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## Country correcting mistakes of past: Modi after unveiling Netaji's hologram statue

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NEW DELHI: In an apparent swipe at previous Congress dispensations, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Sunday that attempts were made after independence to erase contributions of many great people besides India's culture and values, and asserted that the country is now correcting mistakes of the past.

Addressing a gathering after unveiling a hologram statue of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose at the India Gate on the 125th birth anniversary of the iconic freedom fighter, Modi also said no power in the world can prevent the country from achieving its goal of building a 'new India' before the hundredth year of independence in 2047.

He also exhorted people to take inspiration from Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's 'can do' and 'will do' spirit.

He said unfortunately, attempts were made to erase



PM Narendra Modi unveiling hologram statue of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose on the occasion of Parakram Diwas celebrations at India Gate in New Delhi. Home Minister Amit Shah and Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri are also seen.

contributions of many great people besides the nation's culture after independence.

"India's freedom struggle involved the sacrifices of lakhs of people, but attempts were made to limit their history. But today, decades after independence, the country is

correcting those mistakes," he said.

The prime minister also conferred the 'Subhas Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar' for the years 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022 in the investiture ceremony. A total of seven

awards were presented during the ceremony.

Union government has instituted the annual award to recognise and honour the invaluable contribution and selfless service rendered by individuals and organisations in India in the field of disas-

ter management.

Modi also asserted that his government prioritised disaster management.

"We have laid emphasis on reform along with relief, rescue and rehabilitation," he said.

"We strengthened, modernised, expanded the NDRF across the country. From space technology to planning and management, best possible practices have been adopted," he said.

"The grand statue of our Netaji, who had established the first independent government on India's soil, is being installed in digital form near India Gate. Very soon this hologram statue will be replaced by a big granite statue," he said.

It will remind democratic institutions, current and coming generations of their duties and inspire them, he said.

The hologram statue will be powered by a 30,000

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

## Pregnant women, employees with disabilities exempt from physical attendance in J&K

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: As the upward trend of COVID-19 infections continued in Jammu and Kashmir, the State Executive Committee (SEC) on Sunday announced exemption of pregnant women employees and those with disabilities from physical attendance in their offices.

The new guidelines, which retained already issued restrictions including weekend lockdown, night curfew and online classes up to college level, were issued after a fresh review of the COVID-19 situation.

The SEC, which met under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary A K Mehta, directed district magistrates of respective districts of Jammu and Kashmir to adopt a "zero tolerance" policy towards non-compliance of Covid Appropriate Behaviour (CAB) and ensure due action against the defaulters under relevant

sections of the law.

In an order issued this evening, Mehta said the review was conducted to assess overall situation pertaining to the spread of COVID-19, particularly focusing on the total weekly new cases (per million), total positivity rate, bed occupancy, case fatality rate, vaccination coverage of targeted population and the extent of compliance to CAB.

"There is a need for additional measures besides continuing with the existing COVID containment measures in all districts in view of the uneven trend observed in daily Covid cases as well as rising positivity rate," the order read.

Jammu and Kashmir on Sunday recorded 6,253 fresh COVID-19 cases, taking the infection count to 3,97,202, while seven deaths due to the disease pushed the toll to 4,605.

There are 42,866 active cases in the Union Territory,

while the number of recoveries stands at 3,49,731.

The SEC directed all the offices to regulate the attendance of its employees in such a manner so as to ensure that appropriate social distancing norms are maintained.

"Pregnant women employees will be exempted from physical attendance and they shall be allowed to work from home. Employees with disabilities shall also be given the option to work from home," the order said.

To reduce the rate of transmission within Jammu and Kashmir, the order said all efforts would be made by authorities through active involvement of Panchayati Raj Institutions, community leaders, market associations and federations.

The SEC iterated that the maximum number of people permitted to attend any indoor or outdoor gathering will be strictly restricted

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

## 6,253 new coronavirus cases in J&K, 7 more die

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU/LEHI: Jammu and Kashmir on Sunday recorded 6,253 fresh COVID-19 cases, taking the infection count to 3,97,202, while seven deaths due to the disease pushed the toll to 4,605, officials said.

Of the fresh cases, 1,754 were from the Jammu division and 4,499 from the Kashmir division of the Union Territory, the officials said, adding that while three fatalities were reported from the Jammu Division, four were recorded in the Valley.

They said Srinagar district recorded a maximum of 1,464 cases followed by 1,075 cases in Jammu dis-



A health-worker taking nasal swap sample for COVID testing in Jammu.

trict.

While Budgam district in the Valley reported 590 cases in the past 24 hours, Anantnag 578, Baramulla recorded 564, Kupwara 344 cases, Bandipora 261,

Ganderbal 320, Kulgam 174 cases, Pulwama 150 and Shopian reported 54 fresh cases.

Similarly, Jammu district reported 1075 cases, Ramban 176, Doda 140,

Udhampur 115, Kathua 83, Reasi 48, Samba 47, Rajouri 35, Kishtwar 26 and Poonch district recorded 10 cases of infections during the past 24 hours.

According to the daily Media Bulletin, out of 397202 positive cases, 42866 are Active Positive (13233 in Jammu Division and 29633 in Kashmir Division), 349731 have recovered and 4605 have died; 2249 in Jammu division and 2356 in Kashmir division.

The Bulletin further said that out of 20845604 test results available, 397202 samples have tested positive and 20448402 samples have been tested as negative till

date. Besides, 74,785 COVID tests have been conducted in last 24 hours.

Meanwhile, Ladakh has reported 283 fresh COVID-19 cases, raising its tally to 24,496, officials said.

Leh district reported 248 fresh cases and Kargil district 35, they added.

According to the officials, no Covid death was reported in the past 24 hours in the union territory and the death toll remained unchanged at 222 -- 164 fatalities in Leh and 58 in Kargil.

Ninety more patients were discharged from hospitals in Leh and 19 in Kargil after undergoing successful

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

## SSP Jammu among 4 IPS officers placed in Jr Administrative Grade

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The Government on Sunday placed four IPS Officers of 2013 Batch in the Junior Administrative Grade of IPS.

"Sanction is accorded to the placement of the IPS officers of 2013 Batch namely Chandan Kohli, Gurinderpal Singh, Nagpure Amod Ashok and Ashish Kumar Mishra in the Junior Administrative Grade of IPS (Level 12 in the Pay Matrix) with effect from January 1, 2022m" reads an order issued by Shaleen Kabra, Principal Secretary, Home Department.

## COVID-19 death toll climbs to 4,89,409

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NEW DELHI: India logged 3,33,533 new coronavirus infections, taking the total tally of COVID-19 cases to 3,92,37,264, according to the Union Health Ministry data updated on Sunday.

The active cases have increased to 21,87,205, while the death toll has climbed to 4,89,409 with 525 fresh fatalities, the data updated at 8 am stated.

The active cases comprise 5.57 per cent of the total infections, while the national COVID-19 recovery rate has decreased to 93.18 per cent, the ministry said.

An increase of 73,840 cases has been recorded in the active COVID-19 case-load in a span of 24 hours.

The daily positivity rate was recorded at 17.78 per cent while the weekly positivity rate was recorded at 16.87 per cent, according to the ministry.

The number of people who have recuperated from the disease surged

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

**WEATHER**

Temperature (Jammu)

Max: 13.7°C Min: 8.7°C

Humidity

Max: 87 Min: 76

Temperature (Srinagar)

Max: 6.4°C Min: 0.4°C

Humidity

Max: 93 Min: 89

Sunset : 17:56 Hours

Sunrise : 07:31 Hours

## 20 DySPs promoted as SPs; adjusted

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: The government on Sunday promoted 20 Deputy Superintendent of Police (DySPs) as Superintendent of Police (SPs) on officiating basis and posted as Deputy Commandant.

As per order issued by Home Department, on promotion as SPs, Feroz Ahmad has been posted as Deputy Commandant IRP 11th Bn; Jagbir Singh, as Deputy Commandant IRP 3rd Bn; Firdous Ahmad Khan as Deputy Commandant IRP 6th Bn; Ravinder Paul Singh as Deputy Commandant IRP 8th Bn; Jagdev Singh as Deputy Commandant IRP 7th Bn; Diwakar Singh

as Deputy Commandant IRP 19th Bn; B.K Ganjoo as Deputy Commandant IRP 16th Bn; Nisar Hussain as Deputy Commandant IRP 22nd Bn; Vikram Singh as Deputy Commandant IRP 1st Bn; Abdul Wahid Giri as Deputy Commandant IRP 5th Bn; Rajinder Kumar as Deputy Commandant IRP 18th Bn; Raminish Kumar as Deputy Commandant IRP 4th Bn; Parshotam Kumar as Deputy Commandant IRP 15th Bn; Kuldeep Raj as Deputy Commandant IRP 24th Bn; Vinod Kumar as Deputy Commandant IRP 14th Bn; Hira Lal as Deputy Commandant IRP 23rd Bn; Madan Mohan Singh as

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

## NDRF Twitter handle hacked

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**

NEW DELHI: The official Twitter handle of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) suffered a possible hacking attempt late Saturday, officials said. A senior officer of the force said on Sunday that technical experts are looking into the issue and the handle will be restored soon. The handle '@NDRFHQ' briefly posted some random messages and the already published messages were not loading. However, the official display photo and bio of the federal force was visible. NDRF was raised in 2006 as a federal contingency force against natural and man-made disasters and it celebrated its 17th Raising Day on January 19.

## Sher-e-Poonch Ex-MLC Yashpal Sharma no more; demise widely mourned

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Known as 'Sher-e-Poonch (lion of Poonch)', Ex-MLC Yashpal Sharma breathed his last after suffering a massive cardiac arrest last night, family sources said on Sunday. He was 76.

His mortal remains were consigned to flames at Shanti Ghat Crematorium, Poonch on Sunday evening.

He is survived by wife, two sons and two daughters. Yash Pal Sharma is elder brother of country's noted cardiologist Dr Sushil Sharma.

Prominent PDP leader and former member of legislative council Yashpal Sharma a close confidant of PDP



founder and former chief minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed, was named as a member of the political affairs committee of the PDP by party president

Mehbooba Mufti in March last year.

On twitter, J&K PDP wrote, "With great grief & remorse we announce the demise of senior leader, ex MLC & PAC member Yashpal Sharma Ji. A towering personality who dedicated his entire life serving the masses of Poonch. Our thoughts & prayers are with the members of the family in this hour of grief. #RIP"

In March last year, he was among 14 leaders named by PDP President Mehbooba Mufti in the 14-member Political Affairs Committee (PAC).

Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress

Committee also mourned the sad demise of Former MLC and veteran leader of Poonch Yash Pal Sharma.

In a condolence message, JKPC Chief G A Mir and all senior Leaders of the party have expressed profound grief and sorrow over his passing and described Yash Pal Sharma as a leader of poor and downtrodden who was respected by the people of all faiths, shades and ideologies. He served the people of Poonch irrespective of caste, creed and colour. He served the Congress party for longer period of his political life and followed its secular philosophy for entire life.

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

## Jammu-Srinagar NH closed; helicopter service to Vaishno Devi suspended

### Fresh snowfall in Kashmir

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU/SRINAGAR: Traffic on the 270-km Jammu-Srinagar national highway, the only all-weather road linking Kashmir with rest of the country, was suspended on Sunday following landslides triggered by heavy rains and snowfall, officials said.

Over 100 trucks are stranded between Chanderkote and Ramsu and efforts by the road clearance agencies are on to make the road trafficable.

Officials said the helicopter service to Mata Vaishno Devi shrine atop Trikuta hills in Reasi district also remained suspended due to inclement

weather but the yatra continued despite a landslide on the new track and fresh snowfall at the bhawan.

Senior Superintendent of Police, traffic, Shabir Ahmad Malik said the Jammu-Srinagar national highway was closed after overnight rains triggered landslides and shooting of stones from the hillocks at various places including Cafeteria Morh, Duggi Pulli (Chanderkote) and Panthiyal in Ramban district.

No fresh traffic, which was scheduled to ply from Jammu towards Srinagar, was allowed this morning, he said.

The officer said Banihal



Vaishno Devi Bhawan covered with snow on Sunday.

sector also received heavy snowfall, rendering the arterial road slippery.

Officials said a landslide

occurred on the new track leading to the Mata Vaishno Devi shrine around 5 am on Sunday.

The landslide was cleared and the route is now open for the pilgrims, the officials said, adding the helicopter

service, however, remained suspended for the second day on Sunday due to inclement weather.

Vaishno Devi shrine experienced over six inches of snow, while the depth of snow in its peripheral areas including Bhairon Ghati was over one foot, the officials said.

The weather office has predicted moderate rain or snow in both divisions of Jammu and Kashmir till Sunday evening followed by significant improvement in weather from January 24 to January 28.

Katra, the base camp for the pilgrims visiting Vaishno Devi shrine, recorded the highest 50.6 mm of rainfall during the past 24 hours till 8.30 am Sunday, while

Jammu city recorded 13.7 mm of rainfall during the same period.

Banihal town in Ramban district was the coldest recorded place in Jammu region with a low of minus 1.3 degrees Celsius followed by Bhaderwah (0.6 deg C), a spokesperson of the meteorological department said.

He said Katra recorded near normal minimum temperature of 6.2 degrees Celsius, while Jammu city recorded 8.7 degrees Celsius, 1.7 notches above normal during this part of the season.

Many areas in Kashmir received fresh snowfall, while others were lashed by rains, even as the minimum

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9