RNI No.: 66908/96 Regd. No. L-29/JK-346/22-24

Minor landslide hits new track to Vaishno

U L Devi shrine; 18,000 pilgrims offer prayers

Prakash Purab of Guru Gobind Singh celebrated with religious fervour

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

Air surcharge 50 paisa for Leh JKPS Kunjwani launches e-newsletter of 'Hub of Learning'

Major lapse in PM's security in Punjab, massive row erupts



STATE TIMES NEWS

DELHI/FER-OZEPUR/CHANDIGARH: In a "major security lapse", Prime Minister Narendra Modi's convoy was stranded on a flyover due to a blockade by protesters in Ferozepur on Wednesday after which he returned from poll-bound Punjab without attending any event, including a rally.

The Union Home Ministry directed the state government to file an immediate report, saying it did not ensure the required deployment, while Home Minister

dereliction of the security procedure during the prime minister's visit is totally unacceptable and accountability will be fixed.

The incident triggered a major political row as the BJP alleged the ruling Congress in Punjab "tried to physically harm" the prime minister, while other parties too attacked the state government over the law and

On the defensive, Punjab Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi at a press conference denied there was any

Channi, Sidhu caused security threat to PM, both playing in ISI hands: Chugh

CHANDIGARH: BJP national General Secretary Tarun Chugh on Wednesday blasted the Congress government in

Punjab for engineering a security threat for Prime Minister Narendra Modi who was going to address a public meeting in Ferozepur.

Chugh said it's a matter of shame for the Channi government for not allowing

the prime minister to address the public meeting.

Chugh squarely blamed Channi and Punjab PCC president Navjot Sidhu for joining hands with subversive and antinational forces to foil the democratic right of the prime minister and the BJP to address public meetings.

Chugh said it was responsibility of the Congress government to ensure law and order for the PM's visit but entire

Punjab is hanging its head in shame today. The prime minister, he said, had been always thinking of welfare of farmers and it was with due respect to them that

he decided to repeal the agriculture laws. "But Channi and Sidhu are dancing to the tune of Pakistan ISI. Time has come for Punjab to wake up to nefarious designs of the two", Chugh added.

motive behind it and said his government was ready for an inquiry.

spokespersonRandeep Surjewala hit back at the BJP, claiming

Vivek Bhardwai given addl charge of Chairman BOPEE **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: The J&K UT gov-

ernment on Wednesday gave additional Chairman Jammu Kashmir Board Entrance Professional Examination (BOPEE) to Bhardwaj IAS, Financial Commissioner (Additional Chief Secretary), Health and

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Tech PA to EC among 2 JKAS Officers transferred

STATE TIMES NEWS JAMMU: The J&K UT ${\bf Government} \ \ {\bf on} \ \ {\bf Wednesday}$

transferred two JKAS officers. Kishore Singh, JKAS, Project Officer, Wage (ACD), Employment Kishtwar, has been transferred and posted

STATE TIMES NEWS

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

NEW DELHI: Terming the Reorganisation

of Jammu and Kashmir Act "constitutionally

suspect", the National Conference (NC) ques-

Goyt issues avalanche warning Heavy rain, snow disrupt life in J&K; Jammu-Srinagar NH closed

37 flights cancelled due to snowfall in Kashmir

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU/SRINAGAR: The Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir witnessed heavy rain and snow Wednesday. The Valley recorded widespread light to moderate rain and snow throughout the day on Wednesday.

According to MET Centre. Srinagar, heavy rainfall is expected during January 7 and January 8. Orange weather warning has been issued for Jammu and Kashmir. As travel for Light Motor Vehicles on NH 44 has become dangerous due to slippery road conditions and shooting stones, the Jammu Traffic Police has restricted the movement of vehicles. No

NC questions delimitation panel's recommendations

Vehicle will be allowed beyond Nagrota for NH 44. The Traffic Police City

Jammu has appealed to general public, not to travel on NH-44A due to heavy rains, snowfalls, shooting stones at Ramban sector. The higher

approached the Supreme Court challenging

the Centre's 2019 action of revoking the spe-

cial status of the erstwhile state and bifurcat-

ing it into the Union territories of Ladakh,

reaches of J&K have received moderate to heavy snowfall and have become vulnerable to avalanches. "People residing in these areas are requested to take precau-

Team Dr. Avtar Singh

+91-9622965050

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

3 JeM terrorists killed in Pulwama encounter

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Three Jaish-e-Mohammad including a Pakistani national, were killed in an encounter with security forces in Pulwama district of Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday, police said.

Security forces launched a

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

In Delhi, Congress' chief Amit Shah said that such security lapse or political J&K Govt signs MoU with LuLu Group to set-up food processing, logistics hub in Srinagar

Sinha inaugurates J&K promotion week at LuLu Hypermarket, Dubai

STATE TIMES NEWS

DUBAI: The Government on Wednesday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with LuLu Group to set up a food processing & logistics hub in Srinagar, in the presence of Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha and LuLu group Chairman, Yusuff Ali MA.

This historic agreement was signed by Principal Secretary, Industries & Commerce, J&K UT, Ranian Prakash Thakur and Ashraf

J&K Govt retires two officials prematurely

JAMMU: The J&K UT Government on Wednesday

ordered premature retire-

Sources informed that the

exercise was conducted as

part of regular process under

Article 226(2) of J&K CSRs

and followed recommenda-

tions of a review committee

constituted for the purpose.

Under suspension Ashia Hussain, Deputy Registrar,

Cooperative Societies J&K

and under suspension

Showkat Ahmad Wani,

Driver Grade-I, Motor

Garages Department have

been retired prematurely.

The government is scrutiniz-

STATE TIMES NEWS

ment of two officials.

LG Manoj Sinha during MoU signing ceremony

LuLu Group.

Manoj Sinha also inaugurated Jammu & Kashn

motion week at the LuLu Hypermarket, Dubai. Lt Governor said the MoU

with LuLu group will further expand Jammu Kashmir-Dubai collaboration and Kashmir-LuLu Jammu Group partnership.

"Relations between India and UAE are long-standing & deep rooted. People-to-people contact and trade have seen momentum in the recent years under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi," the

J&K records 418 fresh COVID cases, Ladakh 32 Leaves of health officials in Jammu division cancelled

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: While Jammu and Kashmir recorded 418 fresh Covid cases on Wednesday, taking the infection tally to $3,42,\overline{4}19$, while no new death due to the virus was reported in the Union Territory, the leave of health officials in the Jammu Division has been cancelled in view of sudden

Out of the fresh cases, 311 were from the Jammu division and 107 from the Kashmir division, they said.

The number of daily positive cases has doubled in the last 24 hours as 199 cases were detected on Tuesday. Reasi district recorded a maximum of 156 cases fol-

ing cases of "inefficient, ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Complete restrictions in J&K from 9 PM to 6 AM

JAMMU: Following the increase in number of COVID-19 cases in the entire J&K, the UT government has ordered that there shall be a complete restriction on non-essential movement in the entire UT of J&K from 9:00PM to 6:00AM till

According to an order issued by Chief Secretary as Chairperson State Executive Committee, "In continuation to the Covid-19 containment measures Ordered under Section 24 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005, vide Government Order No. 01-JK (DMRRR) of 2022 dated 02-01-2022 and in reference to the meeting held under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary, J&K (Chairman State Executive Committee) along with the ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

lowed by 109 cases in Jammu district.

There are 1.819 active cases in the Union Territory, while the number of recovered patients was 3,36,070, the officials said. The death toll in the Union

Territory was 4,530

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Should taxpayers pay for politicians to offer freebies to win elections?



upcoming assembly elections in five states across the country, the political spectrum has entered into an alarming competi-

tive mode to announce freebies for voters to woo them and to win the polls. Less than promising moon, the 'professional' politicians are ready to offer anything and everything, of course at the expense of the Indian taxpayer, as also at the cost of compromising the democracv. Had the freebies been just for the votes only, it could somehow be tolerated as a lesser evil but the disastrous dimensions this concept has attained is sadly reflected by what happened on the

JAMMU: In the highway leading to Ferozepur this afternoon when the so-called protesting farmers put in jeopardy the security of the Prime Minister. Such a dangerous modus operandi is manifestation of the freebies the Punjab government has announced to win the elections. The Congress led government has already disbursed Rs 5 lakh compensation each of 400 families of those killed during the farmers' protests apart from jobs to 152 to next of kin. The Punjab government has also announced release of funds amounting to Rs 1,200 crore to clear loans up to Rs 2 lakh under the existing debt waiver scheme of about 1.09 lakh small and marginal farmers. Such concessions have emboldened a particular section of society to such an extent that they can resort to tactics having serious ramifications on the

security of the nation.

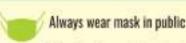
Ironically, the freebie culture got a big boost by the self-styled anti-corruption crusader Arvind Kejriwal, who won Delhi after announcing free power and other concessions. At the strength of the freebies and not because of its performance, Aam Admi Party is emerging as a force to reckon with even outside the Union capital.

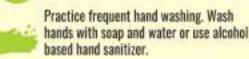
The question arises as to how long and how far shall politicians go in pursuit of their ambitions under the garb of democracy. The Election Commission remains a mute spectator to open and brazen acts of corruption, not only by vote seeking political parties but also by those who are in the cradle of governance. Nobody is asking as to whose money is it they are using to pamper their ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

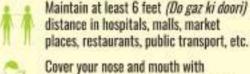


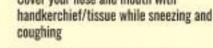
DON'T WAIT **GET FULLY VACCINATED**

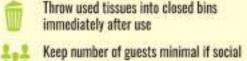
Do's

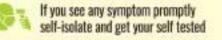






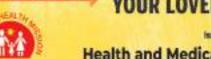






events cannot be postponed





Issued in Public Interest by: Health and Medical Education Department, J & K

Don'ts

Visiting crowded or public

places or large gatherings

commercial, religious, cultural,

Non-essential social,

sporting events, etc.

Non-essential travel

anyone, if you're

Touch your eyes,

nose and mouth

and fever

experiencing cough

Have a close contact with

DIP/J-5439-P/