

03 **ACB restrained from presenting Challan against Ex-Tehsildar Bahu**

09 **Drug peddlers attack police party, SHO Janipur injured**

10 **Manjeet, Pinto Club win ties in Poonch Volleyball**

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Smart City projects in Jammu, Srinagar poised for big leap: LG

Lays foundation stone for upgradation of Transport Nagar



LG Manoj Sinha addressing gathering after laying foundation stone for upgradation of Transport Nagar in Jammu on Monday.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Asserting that Smart City projects in Jammu and Srinagar are poised for a big leap, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday said that effective planning, efficient management of resources, fine balance between heritage, ecology and pace of development and public participation will lead towards equitable and sustainable development.

"We all must put united and collective efforts to make Jammu a truly smart city and also transform it into the cleanest city", the Lt Governor said after laying the foundation stone for upgradation of Transport Nagar in Jammu.

The Lt Governor said, the ambitious project will enable hassle-free trade movements and give a renewed boost to the economic and commercial activities in the region.

Once completed, the upgradation project involving road, drainage network and street lighting will reinstate the glory of Transport Nagar as a business hub. It will also provide convenience to the common citizens and the businessmen coming from outside of the Union Territory, he added.

The Lt Governor reiterated the government's commitment to build green, resilient and inclusive cities.

Continuous efforts are being made to transform urban areas into accelerators of economic growth, improve quality of life and overall prosperity for people, he noted.

Centers of commercial activities are the biggest strength of our socio-economic system and their development is directly linked to prosperity of common man and efficiency of Government machinery. Our focus is on translating the sustainable city's roadmap into the roadmap for development of UT, observed the Lt Governor.

The Lt Governor also highlighted the significant role of the people in realizing the vision of developing vibrant and sustainable cities.

Citizen participation is essential in making cities more attractive,

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Man opens fire after suspected movement in Rajouri village, search op launched

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: A man fired shots from his gun after a suspected movement was detected in a village in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district Monday evening, sources said.

A girl came out shouting that a person entered her house in Mehta mohalla in Muradpur village, they

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Winter vacations in Jammu Division extended till Jan 15

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Directorate of School Education Jammu (DSEJ) on Monday extended winter vacations in summer zone government and private recognised schools of the Jammu division up to January 15, 2023.

As per an order issued by the Director School Education, Jammu, Ravi Shankar Sharma, the winter vacations have been extended "in view of

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CRPF to provide arms training to VDC members in J&K

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) will provide weapons training to Village Defence Committee guards or VDCs in Jammu and Kashmir so that they are able to better counter a terrorist attack, officials said on Monday.

The "final contours" of the training schedule, variety of arms to be included and number of participants will be decided in due course of time, they said.

The Jammu and Kashmir administration has recently started reissuing weapons to village defence guards (VDGs), earlier known as village defence committees (VDCs), following the Dhangri incident in Rajouri district in which seven people were killed. The VDGs comprise local village volunteers.

"The CRPF will provide weapons training to the

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VDGs asked to remain alert to thwart designs of anti-nationals

JAMMU: Village Defence Guards (VDGs), made up of local volunteers, have been asked to remain vigilant in view of the upcoming Republic Day celebrations amid fears that terrorists may disrupt the peaceful atmosphere in this region, officials said on Monday.

VDGs have also been activated along the International Border (IB) in Jammu, Samba and Kathua districts, they said.

The development comes following the twin terror attacks in Dhangri village in Rajouri district in which seven people, including two children, were killed and 11 others injured last week. The VDGs were directed to remain on high alert in view of the forthcoming Republic Day as there are apprehensions of vitiation of the peaceful atmosphere

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Rehman Rahi, Kashmir's first Jnanpith awardee, is no more

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Renowned poet and Kashmir's first Jnanpith awardee Professor Rehman Rahi died here on Monday.

He was 98.

"Rahi breathed his last in the early hours at his residence in the Nowshera area of the city," an official said.

Born on May 6, 1925, Rahi wrote several collections of poems and translated the works of some of the celebrated poets in other languages into Kashmiri.

He received the highest literary award of the country -- Jnanpith award -- in 2007 for his collection 'Siyah Rood Jaeren Manz' (In Black Drizzle). He was also conferred the Padma Shri award



in 2000 for his works.

Rahi received the Sahitya Akademi Award for his collection of poems 'Navroz-i-Saba' in 1961.

He translated the works of Baba Farid into Kashmiri, while Dina Nath Naadim's influence was apparent in his early works. Rahi's

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Religious conversion a serious issue, should not be given political colour: SC

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Observing that religious conversion is a serious issue which should not be given a political colour, the Supreme Court on Monday sought the assistance of Attorney General R Venkataramani on a plea seeking direction to the Centre and states to take stringent steps to control fraudulent religious conversions.

A bench of Justices M R Shah and C T Ravikumar asked Venkataramani to appear in the matter in which the petitioner sought a check on religious conversions through "intimidation, threatening, deceivingly luring through gifts and monetary benefits", and assist as amicus curiae.



The top court said "prime facie" it feels religious conversions are actually happening.

It said there is a difference

between the right to freedom of religion and right to convert.

"We want your assistance also, AG. Religious conversions by force, allurement etc. There are ways and ways, anything by allure-

ment, if that is happening, then what should be done? What are the corrective measures that can be taken?" the bench said.

Senior advocate P Wilson, appearing for Tamil Nadu, called the petition a "politically motivated" PIL, insisting there was no question of such conversions in the state.

He said the matter should be left for the legislature to decide and alleged the petitioner has political affiliation and that he had sedition charges against him.

The bench objected to Wilson's remarks and said, "You may have different reasons to be agitated like

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Govt to bear educational expenses of wards of police martyrs

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The government on Monday decided to bear the monthly school fee, transportation charges and annual uniform charges of the first two children of those police personnel who lost their lives in line of duties due to terrorism related incidents and violence.

According to an order, authorities have also asked the management of private schools to treat these students as part of admission under the Economically Weaker Section (EWS).

The order states the government will reimburse the expenditure towards monthly fee, transportation charges upto a maximum ceiling of Rs 3,000 per child per month.

"Sanction is accorded to the adoption for meeting the expenditure on account of education of wards of martyrs of two eldest children up to class 12th in any

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Punjab Admn has collapsed, time for Governor to interfere, AAP CM should resign immediately: Chugh

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

CHANDIGARH: BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh on Monday said that due to the lopsided and myopic vision of the AAP government in Punjab there is unprecedented collapse of administration while AAP leadership has completely failed.

Reacting to the decision of the PCS officers' going on week-long strike, Chugh said it reflected seriously how the AAP government has crumbled in the border state, which is an alarming situation.

Chugh requested the Punjab Governor to inter-



vene in this crisis moment of the state and take a report from the AAP government about the abysmal failure of governance.

Chugh also expressed his serious concern at the Punjab IAS officers' delega-

tion expressing resentment over the Punjab Vigilance Bureau's action against IAS officer Neelima who was recently booked by VB.

A delegation of around 50 IAS officers met

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LG Sinha to preside over R-Day function at MA Stadium Jammu

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor J&K, Manoj Sinha shall preside over the function and take salute on the main Republic Day function at the MA Stadium, Jammu on January 26 this year.

While, Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to the Lieutenant Governor shall preside over the function and take salute at main function at Srinagar.

Other dignitaries, officers shall preside over the function (s) and take salute on the Republic Day (26th January, 2023) at their respective jurisdictions.

they said.

Qazigund, the gateway to the Valley, registered a minimum of 0.2 degrees Celsius, while Kokernag in south Kashmir recorded a low of minus 0.5 degrees, the officials said.

The mercury in Kupwara, a frontier district, settled above the freezing point at a low of 0.7 degrees. The tourist resort town of Pahalgam in Anantnag district, which also serves as a base camp for the annual Amarnath Yatra, registered a low of minus 0.7 degrees Celsius -- up from minus 1.4 degrees. The minimum temperature in Gulmarg,

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Make in India initiative neither 'isolationist' nor meant for country alone: Rajnath



■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: India does not believe in a "hierarchical" world order where a few countries are considered superior to others and its ties with any nation is based on sovereign equality and mutual respect, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Monday amid growing global concerns over China's bullying behaviour.

In an address at an ambassadors' roundtable on the

upcoming Aero India exhibition, Singh said India's international relations are guided by the very essence of human equality and dignity and it does not believe in making or becoming a client or satellite state.

The defence minister said India's national efforts towards 'Make in India' are neither "isolationist" nor are they meant for the country alone as he made an open offer of partnerships with

New Delhi for production of various military equipment.

The 14th edition of Aero India, billed as Asia's largest aerospace exhibition, will be held in Bengaluru from February 13 to 17.

The defence ministry said the roundtable was attended by ambassadors, high commissioners, charg d'affaires and defence attach s of over 80 countries.

"We do not believe in making or becoming a client or satellite state, and so, when we partner any nation, it is on the basis of sovereign equality and mutual respect," he said while inviting the ambassadors to the mega event.

Singh said India offers a partnership that comes with a variety of options that are accommodative of national priorities and capacities.

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WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 14.1°C Min: 5.2°C

Humidity
Max: 100 Min: 92

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 9.8°C Min: 0.9°C

Humidity
Max: 96 Min: 73

Sunset : 17:43 Hours
Sunrise : 07:34 Hours



snowfall in the plains from Sunday evening.

Srinagar recorded a low of

0.9 degrees Celsius Sunday night -- up from minus 0.1 degrees the night before,

The Jammu and Kashmir Bank Limited
Department of Government Banking
Corporate Headquarters
M.A. Road Srinagar

Public Notice

All branches of J&K Bank have been designated for collection of direct tax (Income Tax) under TIN 2.0 on behalf of CBDT from 1st January, 2023.

DIP/J-4740-P/22

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