Air surcharge 50 paisa for Leh

Mayor announces various projects UU for Bahu Fort under Smart City

Man held for murdering sister-in-law on resisting rape attempt

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

'This decade in agri-horticulture sector belongs to J&K'

# LG shares Govt's vision to accelerate growth of J&K economy



LG Manoj Sinha addressing gathering after inaugurating Mega Fruit Plant Nursery at Chakroi, RS Pura on Tuesday.

## **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Observing that this decade in agriculture and horticulture sector belongs to Jammu and Kashmir. Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday said the policies through holistic development plan have laid the founda-

economic growth of the Union Territory. Inaugurating a Mega Fruit

tions for a sea change in the

Plant Nursery at Chakroi, RS Pura here, the Lt Governor also shared the vision of the government to bring a significant change in the lives of farmers of the Union Territory and accelerate the growth of J&K's econ-

He congratulated the farmers and fruit growers on the occasion, saying, the Nursery will provide best technologies as well as true-to-type quality planting material that will reshape the Horticulture Sector in the area.

It is a massive achievement that in one year a mega fruit plant nursery has been established in an area where cross border shelling was a normal thing in fields, he added.

Our effort is to make subtropical fruit cultivation a multi-faceted business by increasing efficiency of orchards with the help of various interventions like setting up new nurseries and new plant material testing labs, observed the Lt Governor.

Government is committed to serve the present and future needs of farmers in an integrated manner. Our endeavour is also to convert farm's and orchard's potential into farmer's power and transform all the districts of both Jammu and Kashmir divisions into a hub of export with the cultivation of niche crops and value addition of special products, the Lt Governor said.

In order to meet the future challenges and to ensure a new wave of growth momentum, 29 projects approved by the Apex Committee for Holistic Development of Agriculture & Allied sectors are being implemented. The plan worth Rs 5013 crores will bring significant

## LeT OGW held in Srinagar

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Police on Tuesday arrested an alleged overground worker of the Lashkar-e-Taiba at a checkpoint in the city and recovered 450 grams of heroin from him, an official said.

Farzan Farooz, a resident of Pampore, was booked under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act and the Narcotic Drugs and

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## 3 dead as vehicle falls into gorge in Doda

## **STATE TIMES NEWS**

BHADARWAH/JAMMU: Three people were killed when a tempo traveller skidded off the road and plunged into a 300-foot gorge in Doda district on Tuesday, a senior police officer said.

SSP Doda Abdul Qayoom while confirming the incident, said that 3 persons got killed in a tragic road accident in the Mahala area. Soon after the accident, a

# Search ops continues in Rajouri, over 50 detained for questioning

**Secy Sports Council meets President** 

All India Football Federation in Delhi

## **STATE TIMES NEWS**

RAJOURI/JAMMU: Over 50 people have been detained so far for questioning in connection with the attack on the minority community in Jammu and Kashmir's Dangri village even as a massive search operation to track down the terrorists behind the strike continued on the ninth day on Tuesday, officials said.

Seven persons were killed and 14 others injured in the terrorist attack on January

Following the attack, the administration strengthened Village Defence Guards (VDGs) comprising local volunteers and the border grid to keep a tight vigil on possible infiltration routes, the officials said.

They said police posters announcing a reward of Rs 10 lakh to anyone giving credible information about the terrorists have also come up at various places in the

A joint cordon and search involved in the Dhangri attack. There are some vital

operation by the Army, police and CRPF is in progress at

over two dozen villages where there were reports of terrorist presence before the attack, the officials said, adding special operational teams of Jammu and Kashmir police, moved from outside Rajouri, have also been deployed at designated locations.

"Anti-terrorist operation is

leads and we are working on these to bring the culprits to book, Senior Superintendent of Police Rajouri, Mohammad Aslam

He said additional troops of the CRPF along with police were deployed in sensitive areas to strengthen vigil.

Officials said over 50 suspects have been detained

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## J&K Bank engages 24 SHG members as Business Correspondents in Jammu

## STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: As part of its commitment towards women empowerment, J&K Bank on Tuesday engaged 24 women Self Help Group (SHG) members in Jammu as Business Correspondents.

These SHG members were identified by JKRLM from the Jammu Division.

Bank's Divisional (Jammu) Sunit Kumar handed over Micro ATMs and biometric authentication devices to these freshly engaged Business Correspondents at the Bank's Zonal Office Jammu in presence of DGM Rajesh Dubey, AGM Minakshi State Project Gupta (J&K NRLM) and

## Cold wave conditions persist in north India, including J&K STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Large parts of north India reeled under numbing cold on Tuesday with the mercury remaining below the freezing point at most places in Jammu and Kashmir, while dense fog in the early hours of the morning hit road and rail traffic movement.

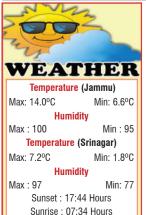
The mercury rose a few notches in Delhi, bringing its residents some respite from

In Jammu and Kashmir, Srinagar recorded a low of 1.8 degrees Celsius on Monday night, up from 0.9 degrees the night before, officials said.

Qazigund, the gateway to the Valley, registered a minimum temperature of minus 0.8 degrees Celsius, while Kokernag in south Kashmir recorded a low of minus 3.6 degrees, they said. The mercury settled at 2.7

degrees Celsius in Kupwara and minus 3.2 degrees

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## other senior officers of the Bank.

Speaking on the occasion, General Manager Sunit Kumar said, "By onboarding 24 SHG members as our Business Correspondents, we have further strengthened our network in Jammu division to serve people particularly women and older sections of society residing in rural areas."

"I am pleased to see these active young ladies joining our prime alternate banking channel - BC Network and happily taking on the responsibility of providing the basic banking services to the people at their doorstep", he added. Notably,

# JE (Jal Shakti Deptt) Recruitment Scam: CBI registers FIR against former J&K SSB Admin Officer, officials & beneficiaries

CBI already probing J&K Police S-I paper leak scam, Accounts Asstt selection scam

## STATE TIMES NEWS

Administrative Officer of J&K Service Selection Board (J&K SSB) Mamta Rajput, JKAS, presently posted as District Welfare Officer Jammu, Section Officer J&K SSB Anju Raina, other officials of J&K SSB, printer MeritTrac Services Private Ltd and various beneficiaries have been booked by the Bureau Investigation (CBI) for their alleged involvement in Junior (Jal Shakti) Engineer Recruitment Scam.

FIR RC0042023A0001 registered with CBI Jammu states that Report of Inquiry

submitted by J&K government prima facie revealed criminal conspiracy amongst officers/officials of JKSSB. M/s MeritTrac Service

Limited

Bengaluru, beneficiaries and other accused persons dishonestly causing gross irregularities in conduct of written examination for the post of Junior Engineers (Civil) Jal

Private

Shakti Department conducted by J&K SSB on March 20, 2022. On August 28, 2022, amid continuous protests by aspirants, the Jammu and Kashmir government canrecruitments by Service Selection Board (SSB) and ordered a CBI probe into selection of financial account assistants (FAA) and

junior engineers(JE) over allegations of irregularities includcancellation of this

came more than a month after the administration had cancelled the process for selection of sub inspectors of J&K Police.

recruitment has been cancelled & a CBI probe recom

ing paper leak and changing of QMR sheets in lieu of Rs 25 to Rs 30 lakh. The

"JKSSB FAAs & JE Civil

mended intoprocess," J&K government had stated in a tweet, adding "Government assures all the aspirants that culprits will not be spared & there won't be any compromise on merit. Fresh recruitment process for FAAs and JE Civil will start soon."

The cancellation comes after a high-level committee gave its report to government. Earlier, the CBI had registered FIR in J&K Police Sub Inspectors Paper Leak Scam.

In August, FIR was registered by the CBI on the request of the government of Jammu and Kashmir to investigate the

## 1,700 drug peddlers arrested in Kashmir in 2022: Police

## STATE TIMES NEWS

alleged drug peddlers were arrested in Kashmir in 2022 as part of a concerted drive against the substance abuse in the Valley which has assumed alarming proportions, police said on Tuesday.

"Police in Kashmir valley

2022," a police spokesman

## SRINAGAR: Nearly 1,700

A huge quantity of contraband substances, cash, arms and ammunition were also recovered during this period, he said.

have registered 1,021 cases under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, arrested 1,685 drug peddlers including 138 notorious drug peddlers who have been detained under PIT-NDPS Act

Of the 1,021 registered

cases, chargesheets were expeditiously filed in 917 cases before different courts of law against the accused persons, he said.

The spokesman said a huge quantity of different types of contraband psychotropic substances were recovered from these alleged drug peddlers during this period.

Police also busted many narco-terror modules and 35accused persons were arrested in this regard in 2021-22, while a huge contraband substances, cash, arms and ammunition were recovered, he said. The contraband

DAP will ensure Jammu to emerge as one

## Drawl of illegal/fraudulent bills as compensation **ACB books JE PMGSY Division, others** for misappropriation of funds

Corruption Bureau (ACB) has registered an FIR against a Junior Engineer of PMGSY Division Suresh Kumar and others for misappropriation of funds.

According to ACB, verification was conducted to look into allegations of the execution of different link roads under PMGSY in league with some officers and officials of Revenue, Horticulture as well as PMGSY Department Kishtwar, who has drawn illegal /fraudulent bills in the form of compensation which was not due to beneficiaries. Some persons have drawn

Jammu and Kashmir's

Rajouri district and fired

indiscriminately at local resi-

dents snatched three families

Seven people belonging to a

particular community were

killed and 14 others injured

in twin terror attacks in

Dangri on January 1. While

five people died in the firing

by terrorists, two children --

aged four and 16 -- lost their

lives in an IED blast the next

Among the dead were two

young brothers, a father-son

duo and an ex-serviceman,

who were the only breadwin-

Saroj Bala (58) is shell

ners of their families.

of their breadwinners

compensation of structures and fruit bearing trees which have not come into alignment of K K road thereby causing loss of crores to government exchequer.

During the course of verification, it came to fore that the structures which were paid compensation illegally included Flour Grinding Mill belonging to Nath Ram, son of Gokal Chand, resident of Anjole on K K road Km 9 to Drabadhan (Anjole) at Km 4 400-600, existing on downhill side away.

The compensation was paid to the tune of Rs 0.81 lakh against said structure which never came under acquired

road. Further another structure belonging to Ashok Kumar, son of Sulla Ram, resident of Anjole on K.K road Km 9th to Drabadhan (Anjole) in Km 18 RD 400-600: exists on downhill side away from the acquired road width. The compensation was paid to the tune of Rs 3.79 lakh against said structure which never came under acquired road. Similarly the structure belonging to Nazir Ahmed, son of Nasrullah Kripak on K K Road Km 10 RD 600 to Keshwan at Km 17th RD 900-950, has been shown under the ambit of proposed road, whereas

## **India successfully carries** out test launch of Prithvi-II missile **STATE TIMES NEWS**

# NEW DELHI: India suc-

cessfully carried out a test launch of tactical ballistic missile Prithvi-II from a test range off the Odisha coast on

The defence ministry said the missile struck its target with "high accuracy"

"A successful training launch of a short-range ballistic missile, Prithvi-II, was carried out on January 10 from the Integrated Test Range, Chandipur off the coast of Odisha," it said.

"A well-established system, Prithvi-II missile has been an integral part of India's nuclear deterrence. The

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# **STATE TIMES NEWS**

Jammu's potential is yet to be explored in its full form, Democratic Azad Party (DAP) chief Ghulam Nabi Azad on Tuesday said that whenever elections happen and if his party is elected to power he will ensure it emerges as one among the top developed cities.

Speaking at a joining function of several prominent Congress leaders joining the DAP, Azad assured the party functionaries and workers that he will take everyone on board and ensure Jammu Kashmir is one among the top developed UT's of the



DAP Chief Ghulam Nabi Azad along with new entrants in Jammu

country. "The people are gradually understanding and endorsing our agenda of development for Jammu and Kashmir. The joining of new faces from other parties

amply reflects their desire for change. DAP is an alternative force and we believe in change and development," he said. On the occasion, dozens of Congress's prominent

## Kashmir handicrafts to get two more GI registrations

### STATE TIMES NEWS SRINAGAR:

Department of Handicrafts and Handloom (H&H) Kashmir has submitted the dossier for registration of two more crafts viz. Crewel Chain-stitch Intellectual Property India, Chennai, an apex body for the registration and better protection of geographical indications (GI) relating to goods in India.

Kashmir, while highlighting the significance of the GI certification of Crewel and Chain-stitch, on Tuesday said that the department is working hard to get more crafts from Kashmir under the ambit of GI certification

The Director.

so that the genuine handmade Kashmir Handicrafts will get due recognition across the globe.

He said there are more than 10,000 craftsmen associated with the twin crafts of Crewel and Chain-stitch scattered over different districts of the Kashmir region and they all shall get benefitted from the GI certification of these crafts. These crafts have an export potential of more than 200 crores, he added.

Geographical indication tagging has acquired a greater significance ever since the focus has shifted towards Vocal for Local. The H&H department has

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

## ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9 **Elections our right but** won't beg for it: Omar

# STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Conference vice president Omar Abdullah on Tuesday said election is the right of the people but Kashmiris will not beg before the Centre to hold polls in Jammu and Kashmir.

"If elections are not held this year, so be it! We are not beggars. I have said it time and again, Kashmiris are not beggars. Election is our right but we will not beg before them for this right. They want to restore the elections to us, good. But if they don't want to do it, so be it," Omar told reporters in Anantnag district

Asked about the eviction of people from properties

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

# Sunrise: 07:34 Hours

## **Dangri terror attack:** 3 families lose breadwinners **STATE TIMES NEWS** RAJOURI: Terrorists who swooped on Dangri village in

shocked and the only survivor in the family after her two sons -- Deepak Sharma (27) and Prince Sharma (21) -- died in the attack. Her

husband Rajinder Sharma had died of a serious ailment Pritam Lal (55) and his 31year-old son Shishu Pal, who were working as labourers to earn their livelihood, were killed by terrorists inside "I was cooking dinner for

the family when the terrorists started firing in the village. They asked for identity cards and pushed me and my minor children -- a son and a

Shishu Pal's widow Neeta Devi told PTI. She said her father-in-law used to work as a labourer in

before firing on them,

the village, while her husband was working for a construction agency. Her mother-in-law had died some years ago. "There is no one who can feed us," she said, as tears

streamed down her face. Satish Kumar (45), who retired from the Army three and a half years ago, was returning home when he heard firing shots.

Kumar gave his life saving

his family from the terrorists, his brother-in-law Chaman Sharma said.

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