

03 JMC regularises 535 sanitation workers

Decision on J&K polls will be taken keeping in mind weather, security concerns & other factors: CEC

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir will be held keeping in mind various factors, including weather and security concerns, Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Rajiv Kumar said on Wednesday.

Responding to a reporter's question here on the possible timing of polls in the Union Territory, Kumar said, "We are conscious that in any place which is due for elections, it is our duty that we get the government in place as mandated."

He noted that the delimitation process in Jammu and Kashmir has been completed and so is the special summary revision or revision of electoral roll. The CEC said returning officers and additional electoral registration officers have also been appointed in the rearranged and new constituencies.

"We are aware that once the process is complete, they



CEC, Rajiv Kumar interacting with media during a press briefing at New Delhi on Wednesday.

(polls) must be held. And taking the weather, taking the security concerns and all other factors...other elections at that time... (into consideration, we will take a decision)," he said.

The final electoral roll of Jammu and Kashmir was published on November 25 last year, paving the way for the Assembly polls, the first since the provisions of Article 370 of the Constitution were abrogated in 2019 and the erstwhile state was bifurcated

into Union territories.

The revision of the electoral roll was carried out after a gap of nearly three years. It was last carried out with reference to January 1, 2019 as the qualifying date.

The electoral roll could not be updated after the abrogation of the provisions of Article 370. Subsequently, the constituencies were redrawn following a delimitation exercise.

After the delimitation exercise, the number of Assembly

09 Three narco smugglers nabbed, heroin recovered

Six SPs get addl charge; Raj Paul SSP Traffic Jammu; Sagar SSP CID Delhi

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Director General of Police, J&K, Dilbag Singh has given additional charge of the Units/Battalions to six police officers.

"Six officers shall hold the additional charge of the Units/Battalions including DD Powers, till the posts are filled up by the Government on substantive basis," reads an order issued by

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Bharat Jodo Yatra to enter J&K today

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi led Bharat Jodo Yatra (BJY), would enter Jammu and Kashmir on January 19 as part of its final destination amid tight security measures in the Union Territory.

Congress spokesperson said grand welcome of Rahul Gandhi's yatra is planned at Jammu and Kashmir's

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Rs 10 lakh ex-gratia provide to NoK of each deceased NHM employee

J&K performing better than national average on several parameters: LG

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Saying that Jammu and Kashmir is performing better than the national average on several parameters, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday asserted that continuous efforts are being made to remove the regional imbalance which existed earlier in the field of health care.

"The health indicators exemplify our efforts to ensure well being of the common citizens", the Lt Governor said after handing over an ex-gratia cheque of Rs 10 lakhs to NoKs of each deceased National Health Mission employee.

He observed: "In our journey to achieve Quality and Accessible Healthcare, we have taken special care to make our health services effective, people-centered and equitable."

Referring to the reforms introduced to strengthen the



LG Manoj Sinha handing over ex-gratia cheques to NoKs of deceased National Health Mission employees.

healthcare system, the Lt Governor said, under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, J&K's health sector has gone through a sea change ensuring high-quality affordable, accessible healthcare for all.

Improved health infrastructure, expansive network of health and wellness centres, substantial increase in MBBS seats, universal health coverage, ambulance services, mobile clinics,

besides decentralization of medical facilities have ensured expansion of health services in remote and far-flung areas, he added.

Several reforms were undertaken to implement the system of 'Any Treatment, Anywhere, Anytime'. The 'e-SAHAJ' initiative entails online appointments from doctors, and digitization of patient's medical records. As many as 575 health

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Magisterial probe ordered into Sidhra encounter

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir government has ordered a magisterial probe into the encounter in Sidhra area here in December last year in which four terrorists were killed.

Assistant Commissioner, Jammu, Piyush Dhotra has been appointed as an enquiry officer to conduct the probe into the encounter which took place near police check-point at Sidhra on December 28, according to an order issued by the additional district magistrate.

"I have been directed to conduct a magisterial enquiry and submit the report to district magistrate, Jammu", Dhotra said in a notice on Wednesday.

The probe has been ordered in accordance with the guidelines issued by the National Human Rights Commission.

"In order to gather facts of the matter and to conduct enquiry in a fair and transparent manner; anyone having any information can come to the office and record his or her statement from today till January 21", the officer said.

Four heavily-armed terrorists, travelling in a truck to Kashmir after infiltrating from Pakistan, were killed in the "chance encounter" with security forces here.

Seven AK assault rifles, one M4 rifle, three pistols and a large quantity of ammunition were also seized from their possession.

J&K Govt proposes Rs 350 cr for development of dairy sector

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir administration has proposed an allocation of Rs 350 crore in next five years for the development of dairy sector across the Union Territory and said the move will create around 16,000 jobs and 600 enterprises.

The administration has recently approved a project to increase milk production in the region by a significant 70 per cent within the next five years.

"J&K will produce around 16,000 jobs and 600 enterprises in next five years in dairy sector thus securing livelihood. We assure employability avenues for the

youth," said Atal Dulloo, Additional Chief Secretary, Agriculture Production Department.

The J&K government has proposed an amount of over Rs 350 crore in next five years for development of dairy sector across Jammu and Kashmir, he said.

"Dairy development is a crucial aspect of the region's economy, as well as a vital source of nutrition for its residents. Livestock husbandry of which dairy is the biggest component, besides playing a pivotal role in sustaining the agriculture income of farmers, acts as a growth engine for agriculture and allied sectors in J&K," he said.

Dulloo said that J&K can be a model for dairy development in entire country by milking farm policy reforms.

At present, the annual milk production in Jammu and Kashmir is 26 lakh metric tonnes, but according to the project, the Jammu and Kashmir administration has set a target to increase this figure to 44 lakh metric tonnes, he said.

This increase in milk production is expected to be achieved through a range of measures, including the expansion of breeding coverage and increasing per animal productivity, he added.

"One of the key elements

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Will make guidelines on 'living will' more workable, no review: SC

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court said on Wednesday it will not review its 2018 judgement on passive euthanasia and only make the guidelines on "living will", an advance medical directive on end of life treatment, more workable.

The apex court's 2018 order on passive euthanasia wherein it recognised

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Rahul should apologise to J&K people before Yatra enters UT: Raina

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Before his Bharat Jodo Yatra enters Jammu and Kashmir, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi should apologise to the nation, especially the people of the Union territory, for the "sins committed by his family and party" in the region over the last 70 years, the BJP said on Wednesday.

BJP's J-K unit chief



Ravinder Raina alleged that the Congress has been sympathetic to parties who supported terrorism and asserted that it was Prime Minister Narendra Modi who has "truly united the country", while the opposition party has done otherwise.

"Gandhi family and Congress have made historic blunders related to

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IED laden tiffin box recovered in Rajouri, diffused

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI/JAMMU: An improvised explosive device (IED), planted in a tiffin box, was seized in Rajouri district on Wednesday, a senior police official said.

Senior Superintendent of Police, Rajouri, Mohammad Aslam said the object was found from an open field in the town's Kheora locality in the afternoon.

The area was immediately cordoned off. Bomb disposal squads and sniffer dogs were

pressed into service and the material was seized, the officer said, adding that further investigation is on.

Officials said security forces have launched a search operation in the town and checking has also been intensified following the seizure of the IED-like object.

Police and other security forces are on high alert in the district following two terror strikes earlier this

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Govt lifts ban on intra, inter distt movement of bovines; import of elite dairy animals from outside J&K

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Following declaration of Jammu and Kashmir as "Free Area" for LSD, the Agriculture Production Department has lifted ban on intra district and inter district movement of bovines in J&K along with import of elite healthy dairy animals from outside the UT.

An official order issued on Wednesday in this regard stated that all the

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WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 17.2°C Min: 4.5°C

Humidity
Max: 94 Min: 66

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 6.6°C Min: -4.3°C

Humidity
Max: 93 Min: 57

Sunset : 17:51 Hours
Sunrise : 07:33 Hours

People's support to Modi made abrogation of Art 370 possible: Anurag

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Union Minister Anurag Thakur on Wednesday recalled a 'yatra' he undertook in 2011 to hoist the tricolour at Srinagar's Lal Chowk but was arrested upon entering Jammu and Kashmir, and said it was because people voted for Prime Minister Narendra Modi that Article 370 could be abrogated in 2019.

"It was almost like hoisting



the tricolour was banned in our own country. In the same country, eight years later, when Modiji became the

prime minister due to your votes, Article 370 and 35 A were abrogated forever," said Thakur.

Addressing an event at the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) remembering Subhash Chandra Bose ahead of his birth anniversary on January 23, Thakur said the government today is working to create

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