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### Modi to unveil...

underway. By evening, all arrangements should be done," he said. At Lalita Ghat, labourers were busy working on an earthen ramp that has been built to facilitate the movement of the prime minister from the cruise jetty to the starting point of the corridor, one of the dream projects of Modi.

Over 3,000 seers, people associated with different religious mutts, artistes and other noted personalities are to assemble at the venue on December 13 to witness the inauguration.

The programme will last about 2-3 hours.

"In the evening, the PM will take part in an informal 'baithak' with CMs and deputy CMs on the river cruise. Being the MP from Varanasi, he had expressed his desire to showcase the grandeur of Kashi, situated on the banks of the river, to the chief ministers. Also, from his cruise, PM will witness Ganga 'aarti' and grand festivities on the ghats, which will culminate with fireworks and laser show," the DM said.

Sharma said ghats are being decorated and the plan is to light up "five lakh diyas" on the ghats and observe the occasion on a scale of 'Dev Deepavali'.

The prime minister will stay at the guest house on the Diesel Locomotive Works (DLW) campus after finishing his engagements on the day one of his visit.

"Next day, he will take part in a formal meeting with chief ministers and other events, and later in the day will participate in an annual event of Swarved Mandir in Umrana," he said, adding his two-day engagement will end at around 5 pm on Tuesday.

After laying the foundation stone of the corridor, Modi had said the project would be a model for "protection and preservation" of temples and a combination of modern technology with ancient faith.

He had also said this project would become a model for similar projects elsewhere and give a new global identity to Kashi.

Posters have been put up on ornate lamp posts in streets near the iconic temple - one of the 12 Jyotirlingas -- hailing Modi for "realising the vision of this project".

The current structure of the temple was constructed by Maharani Ahilyabai Holkar around 1780, and in the 19th century, Maharaja Ranjit Singh had got it crowned with golden 'shikhar'.

A posse of police personnel are guarding the temple premises and public roundabouts and patrolling the streets to ensure everything goes smoothly.

"Given the scale and importance of the programme, security has been stepped up across the city, especially in the areas surrounding the temple and the corridor. A large number of high-profile guests are slated to attend the event. And, a very large number of people are expected to attend it," a senior police official said.

The city, the parliamentary constituency of Modi since 2014, has been decorated ahead of the mega event -- 'Divya Kashi, Bhava Kashi' -- and the residents of the temple town eagerly await the arrival of the prime minister.

Facades of buildings located on streets leading to the shrine have been painted in uniform light pink colour, and many buildings have been illuminated. Many hotels located near Godowlia Chowk have also been lit up by their owners to celebrate the occasion.

### 55 HD cameras...

official source told PTI.

According to district administration authorities, Modi's first visit will be to the ancient Kal Bhairav temple, fondly called as 'Kashi ke Kotwal'.

"Our coverage will begin from Kal Bhairav Mandir, and follow his event-related movements throughout the day to bring an immersive experience to viewers through high-def cameras and aerial views of the mega event. PM's travel through cruise, his arrival at Lalita Ghat, his movements in the sprawling premises of the corridor, will all be captured in a breathtaking way," the source added.

The drone view will also aerially showcase the sprawling premises of the holy shrine, revered by Hindus as one of the 12 Jyotirlingas, after the redevelopment project.

### Modi's Twitter handle...

Twitter handle of PM @narendramodi was very briefly compromised. The matter was escalated to Twitter and the account has been immediately secured. In the brief period that the account was compromised, any Tweet shared must be ignored," it said.

The tweet, after Modi's personal handle was hacked, also claimed that India has officially bought 500 BTC and is distributing them among its residents and shared a link, asking people to hurry up.

The future has come today, it said.

Many users immediately pointed out that the account seems to have been hacked. India, it may be noted, has taken a tough stand on cryptocurrencies.

The government is likely to introduce a bill on cryptocurrencies and has expressed concerns that they may be used for luring investors with misleading claims and for funding terror activities?

### 19,370 candidates appear...

In view of ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, all Examination Centres were sanitized in advance besides candidates were also made to undergo thermal scanning before entering into the examination halls.

To avoid any last minute rush, the candidates were asked to report at the examination venue at least two hours in advance for which wide publicity through print and electronic media was done.

The JKPSC informed that total of 30729 candidates were eligible for taking the examination out of which 19370 candidates appeared for the paper. The commission had established 73 Centres in both divisions of Jammu and Kashmir.

The Assistant Registrar Cooperative Societies Examination has been designed as two stage process and today's Examination was first stage which will be followed by the interview of candidates shortlisted by qualifying today's paper.

The Chairman, JKPSC thanked the UT Administration and Police Authorities for their cooperation and also complimented the Observers, Magistrates, Supervisors, invigilating and support staff for smooth and successful conduct of examination.



### Army Major shots himself dead in Ramban

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BANIHAL: A 29-year-old Army Major allegedly shot himself dead with his service rifle at a camp in Ramban district, officials said on Sunday.

Major Parvin Singh, a resident of Delhi, was at his residential quarter inside the camp at Mahabul in Khari area of Banihal, when he shot himself with an AK assault rifle on Saturday night, the officials said. They said that the officer had joined the camp as Company Commander recently. The motive behind his taking such an extreme step was not known immediately, the officials said. Police has started inquest proceedings under Section 174 of Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC) and further investigation is on, they added.

### Nine injured in mishap

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NOWSHERA: About nine passengers were injured after a vehicle, they were travelling in, met with an accident on Sunday.

As per details, an Eco car (JK11B /9506) met with an accident near Narian in Nowshera as a result of which nine passengers got injured. They were shifted to Nowshera hospital out of which seven were referred to GMC Hospital Jammu. The injured were identified as Vijay Kumar, son of Inder Lal, resident of Rajkot; Sanjay Kumar, son of Bhagat Ram, resident of Nowshera; Harday Krishan (Driver), son of Tara Chand, resident of Dandesar; Sunita Devi, wife of Vijay, resident of Rajkot; Ruder Sharma; Radha Sharma; Shani Devi, wife of Sanjay Kumar, resident of Nowshera; Prince Sharma, son of Sanjay Kumar, resident of Nowshera and Aryan.

### Rs 70,800 fine recovered from COVID SoPs violators in Ramban & Kathua

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAMBAN: Continuing the enforcement drive to implement COVID protocol across the district Ramban, the Enforcement teams on Sunday fined scores of violators for roaming without wearing face masks and not maintaining physical distance. The enforcement teams, during the inspection in their respective jurisdictions, recovered a fine of Rs 26,900 taking the total amount fined since April 1, 2021 to Rs. 72,22,000. The Enforcement officers urged people to wear face masks and maintain physical distance besides taking COVID vaccination doses at their nearest CVC.

District Immunization Officer, Ramban, Dr Suresh informed that as many as 933

### JeM terrorist killed...

has been initiated. People were requested to cooperate till the area at encounter site is completely sanitized and cleared of all the explosive materials, if any", the spokesman added.

Earlier, three terrorists were killed in an encounter in the Cheek Cholan area of Shopian district on Wednesday. While one was neutralised in the morning, another two were killed later.

On Friday, two policemen were martyred after terrorists opened fire at a police team Bandipora's Gulshan Chowk.

### Provide agenda for...

and NC MP from north Kashmir's Baramulla, Mohammad Akbar Lone. NC president and Srinagar MP, Farooq Abdullah, is currently in Jammu.

Masoodi said the party wants to go through the agenda first before taking the decision over its participation in the meeting.

We want to go through the material that is provided to us so that we can look into it and then take our decision, he said.

The NC MP said the two MPs have also reminded the Commission that there has been no response so far from the Commission to the party's letter written on February 17.

The party had boycotted the first meeting of the Commission with the associate members and had sent a letter to the Commission, saying the exercise was an outcome of Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization Act-2019, which the party had challenged in the Supreme Court.

The letter had called upon the Commission to halt the delimitation proceedings as the exercise was being conducted in accordance with the provisions of an Act which is under judicial scrutiny.

Masoodi said once the party MPs get a response from the Commission, they will study it and then take a decision.

We have just been asked to come for the meeting on December 20. What is the meeting about, what do we have to do there, we have no idea. Nothing has been told to us. That is why we have written the letter, he said.

### Efforts on to...

representatives of the associations about the substantial upgradation of facilities and infrastructure development for the yatris achieved in the past two years, the spokesman said.

The Lt Governor observed that three Yatri Niwas are being created to provide better boarding and lodging facilities to pilgrims on their way to the cave shrine, he said.

These include Chandarkote Yatri Niwas coming up at Ramban district, which would provide accommodation to around 3,200 yatris, besides Jammu Yatri Niwas and Srinagar Yatri Niwas with a capacity of accommodation of 3000 and 2250 yatris, respectively, the spokesman added.

The representatives of the Langar associations appreciated the efforts of the UT administration and confirmed their active participation in the yatra arrangements, he said.

They also offered their help through donations in terms of monetary as well as material resources required for the infrastructure, the spokesman added.

### J&K reports 126...

2306in Kashmir division.

The Bulletin further said that out of 18274913 test results available, 338871 samples have tested positive and 17936042 samples have been tested as negative till date. Besides, 54,901 COVID tests have been conducted in last 24 hours.

Till date 4805963 persons have been enlisted for observation which included 6524 persons in home quarantine including facilities operated by government, 1541 in isolation and 429053 in home surveillance. Besides, 4364351 persons have completed their surveillance period.

Meanwhile, Ladakh's tally of COVID cases has increased to 21,804 with 12 fresh infections, officials said.

The death toll remained at 215 and of these, 157 deaths have been reported from Leh and 59 from Kargil, they said.

The number of active cases in the Union Territory has dropped to 212 -- 196 in Leh and 16 in Kargil -- from 220 the previous day, according to the officials.

All the 12 new cases were detected in Leh, they said.

The officials said that 18 patients were discharged from hospitals in Leh and two in Kargil, taking the total number of recoveries in Ladakh to 21,377.

### J&K did not...

that the target is one particular religion which is not allowed by the Constitution of this country, he added.

Abdullah said this was not the India to which Jammu and Kashmir had acceded. J-K had acceded to a secular, tolerant India, he said, adding, this (Khattar's) statement is highly condemnable.

### Aprons with name...

and maintaining discipline in the institution," reads a circular issued by Principal GMC Jammu, Dr Shashi Sudhan Sharma today.

### PDP youth event...

the Kashmir issue. We all have to come together, especially the youth. We have to show them that we are not afraid of them. If we were afraid, then we would also make compromises like other parties," she said.

She claimed that all other leaders and parties were holding rallies but only PDP was denied permission.

In an order, the Executive Magistrate, First Class, South Srinagar said in view of the report received from the Senior Superintendent of Police and the COVID-19 restrictions in place, it is hereby ordered that the scheduled youth conference that is to be held by PDP at Gupkar is not allowed."

The magistrate directed the station house officer concerned to "ensure" that no such event takes place "without the permission of the competent authority."

In a statement, the police spokesman said a gathering of at least 1000 people was expected at the venue and given the prevalent COVID situation and larger security

persons were administered first and second COVID vaccine doses across Ramban district on Sunday. As per daily bulletin issued by the Chief Medical Officer, Ramban, Dr Mohammad Faried Bhat, the Health Department has collected 2,334 samples including 624 RT-PCR and 1,710 RAT samples besides administering COVID vaccine to 933 persons at dedicated Vaccination Centres in the district.

District Police Kathua also Challaned 145 people who violated Government order and a total fine amounting to Rs 43,900 was collected as a penalty from violators.

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