

03 CJ e-inaugurates e-filing app for HC, 'Employees Record Management System application' for Subordinate Judiciary

05 Mask-men loot Rs 2.31 lakh from petrol pump staff in Arnia

10 Third win in row for J&K boys in Junior National Volleyball

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

39 MoUs worth Rs 18,300 Cr signed for investments in residential, commercial infrastructure; film sectors

Real Estate to create innumerable opportunities for economic growth in UT: Puri

Barriers to businesses in J&K removed: LG

J&K now entering mainstream journey of PM's New India: Dr. Jitendra

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Titans of India's Real Estate Sector, including promoters in Residential, Retail & Commercial space, Entertainment Industry, Tourism & Hospitality, Logistics & Warehousing and Financing Institutions came together for the growth of J&K at the first-ever 'Real Estate Summit-2021'.

In presence of Hardeep Singh Puri, Union Housing & Urban Affairs Minister; Manoj Sinha, Lieutenant Governor, J&K and Dr. Jitendra Singh; Union MoS, 39 MoUs worth Rs 18,300 Crore were signed on Monday to foster growth and development in Jammu and Kashmir. It includes investments in the residential, commercial, infrastructure, and film sectors.

During his address, the Union Minister, Hardeep Singh Puri said that Real Estate, being the second largest employer in the country will create innumerable



Union Ministers Hardeep Singh Puri, Dr. Jitendra Singh, LG Manoj Sinha and others during Real Estate Summit-2021.

- ▶ **Next 'Real Estate Summit' in Srinagar to be organised on May 21 & 22, 2022**
- ▶ **RERA portal, Housing Portal, integrated auction portal launched to facilitate transparent and accountable framework in Real Estate Sector**
- ▶ **3 Housing Schemes launched under which about 1000 EWS apartments under PMAY and another 150 MIG & HIG apartments are being launched**
- ▶ **J&K Govt signs MoU on skilling with NAREDCO to train 10,000 workers in various skills of the construction industry**

opportunities for economic growth in J&K.

The natural endowments in the UT of J&K and resilience

of its people are second to none in the world which now need to be translated into economic development, pros-

perity and ease of living, said the Union Minister.

Lt Governor, Manoj Sinha termed the event as a historic

milestone in J&K's Real Estate sector.

Last few years have seen tremendous change in terms of good governance, delivering development & transforming the infrastructure of the UT. Barriers to businesses in J&K have been removed. The UT of Jammu & Kashmir is now an attractive place to do business and invest, said the Lt Governor.

The Lt Governor announced that the next 'Real Estate Summit' will be organized in Srinagar on 21st and 22nd May 2022. Development of local businesses is imperative in scripting the growth story of J&K. Besides national players in real estate, local developers of J&K will also be at the focus of this new dawn of development of real estate sector in the UT, he added.

The Lt Governor expressed his gratitude to the Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Union Minister

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

MHA issues fresh advisory for COVID management; asks states, UTs not to let guard down

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Amidst initial signs of surge in cases of COVID-19 as well as increased detection of Omicron variant in different parts of the country, the Centre on Monday issued a fresh advisory to all States and UTs to deal with the pandemic situation.

In the advisory, Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla said States and Union Territories may consider imposing need based, local curbs and restrictions, to control the crowd during the festive season.

Asking States and UTs not to let the guard down, he emphasised that there should be continued focus on the five-fold strategy - Test-Track-Treat-Vaccination and adherence to Covid appropriate behaviour to avoid the possibility of surge in COVID-19 cases, especially keeping in view the new Variant of Concern (VOC).

He asked the States and UTs to refer to the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) order issued for ensuring implementation of the measures as conveyed by the

CoWIN registration for 15-18 yr age group to start on Jan 1

NEW DELHI: Children aged between 15 and 18 years would be able to register on the CoWIN portal from January 1 and the vaccine option for them would only be Covaxin, officials said on Monday as preparations are underway to start inoculating children against COVID-19 from January 3.

"Children aged between 15 and 18 years would be able to register on the CoWIN portal from January 1," CoWIN chief Dr RS Sharma said on Monday.

The vaccine option for those in the 15-18 age group would only be Covaxin, according to the "Guidelines for COVID-19 vaccination of children between 15-18 years and precaution dose to HCWs, PLWs and 60+ population with comorbidities" issued by the Union health ministry on Monday.

According to the guidelines, which will come into effect from January 3, those aged 15 and above will be able to register on CoWIN. In other words, "all those whose birth year is 2007" or before, shall be eligible.

An additional provision has been made on CoWIN through which students can register for vaccination on the portal using their student identity cards

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) on December 21.

"The country has witnessed an overall decline in active cases. However, the new variant, Omicron is reported to be at least three times more transmissible than the Delta VOC, and is posing a new challenge for the Covid containment measures," the

communication said.

In the countries with Omicron-driven surge, the home secretary said, the growth trajectory of cases has been very steep and in our country, 578 Omicron cases have already been reported in 19 States and UTs so far. He said globally, Omicron cases have

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Omar, Mehbooba fume over opening J&K to real estate investors

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Former Jammu and Kashmir chief ministers Omar Abdullah and Mehbooba Mufti on Monday hit out at the



administration for opening the union territory to real estate investors, alleging that

it is being done to change the demography of the region. "Once again the true intentions of the government are brought to the fore. While offering to secure the land, jobs, domicile laws & identi-

ty of the people of Ladakh, J&K is being put up for sale. People of Jammu should beware, 'investors' will buy up land in Jammu long before Kashmir," Abdullah wrote on Twitter.

Mehbooba tweeted, "J&K's special status was illegally revoked to dehumanise, dispossess & disempower the only Muslim majority state in India. GOIs brazen loot & sale of our resources shows that the sole motive is to annihilate our identity & change the demography."

5.3 magnitude earthquake hits J&K

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: An earthquake of 5.3 magnitude hit Jammu and Kashmir on Monday, officials said. So far, there are no reports of damage due to the quake, they said. Tremors were felt around 7.01 pm, the officials said.

The earthquake was 5.3 in magnitude and its epicentre was at a depth of 10 kilometres in the Astore area of Gilgit Baltistan, they said.

Slight respite from intense cold conditions in Kashmir after snowfall

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Snowfall in some parts and brief rainfall in most areas of Kashmir has resulted in respite from intense cold wave conditions on Monday, officials said. Srinagar recorded a low

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

SKIMS likely to get Director today; 15 candidates shortlisted

■ SHAKELLA ANDRABI

SRINAGAR: Sher-e-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences Soura (SKIMS) is likely to get Director with full financial and other procurement powers, as shortlisted candidates will face the interview process on December 28.

The only world class medical institute of Jammu and Kashmir with state-of-art lab diagnostic centres and highly qualified medical fraternity has been suffering

from various shortcomings on account of medical facilities for the past six months.

The candidates shortlisted by the Committee are Dr Yogesh Sarin,



FOLLOW-UP

Director Professor and Head Department of Pediatric Surgery at Lady Hardinge Medical College; Dr Nisar Ahmed Bhat; Dr Altaf Umar Ramzan, Professor and Head Department of Neurosurgery SKIMS Soura; Dr Umar

Javed Shah, Dean Medical Faculty and HoD Gastroenterology/Surgical Oncology at SKIMS Soura; Dr Showkat Ali Mufti, Professor and HoD Emergency Medicine at SKIMS Soura; Dr Parvaiz A Koul, ex-HoD Internal and Pulmonary Medicine at SKIMS Soura; Dr Ghulam Nabi Lone, Prof and HoD CVTs at SKIMS Soura; Dr Bashir A Laway, Professor and HoD Department of Endocrinology at SKIMS Soura; Dr Showkat

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Three PWD officials deputed to Ladakh, 3 repatriated back

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Government on Monday and deputed three officers/officials of Public Works (R&B) Department to Union Territory of Ladakh and repatriated three officials to J&K UT.

"Er. Jatinder Kumar, I/c Assistant Executive Engineer (Mechanical), Er. Ajay Kumar, I/c Assistant Engineer (Mechanical) and Tilak Raj, Head Draftsman (Mechanical), presently working in the

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

2 Jaish-e-Mohammad terrorists arrested in Pulwama

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Security forces arrested two overground workers of terror outfit Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) in Pulwama district on Monday, police said.

According to a police spokesperson, the arrested men have been identified as Adil Ali son of Ali Mohd Bhat resident of Aechan and Asif Gulzar son of Gulzar Ahmad Dar resident of Hajidarpura.

"Security forces have arrested two terrorist associates linked with proscribed terror outfit JeM and recov-

ered incriminating materials from their possession," the police spokesperson said.

"Incriminating materials of the proscribed terror outfit, JeM, were recovered from their possession," he added.

The spokesperson said a preliminary investigation has revealed that the arrested men were in touch with JeM commanders and involved in providing logistics, shelter as well as arms, ammunition and explosive materials to the members of the outfit to strengthen the terror networks operating

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Baldev Prakash is new Director on BoD of J&K Bank

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The government on Monday appointed Baldev Prakash as Director on the Board of Directors (BoD) of Jammu & Kashmir Bank.

"In exercise of powers vested under Article 69 of the Articles of Association of the Jammu and Kashmir Bank Limited, and pursuant to approval of Reserve Bank of India sanction is accorded to the appointment of Baldev Prakash as Director on the Board of Directors of the Jammu and Kashmir

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Ethnic cleansing of KPs be probed by retired SC Judge: Rana

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Making a sensational disclosure that highest authority in the UPA had intervened to get the Kashmiri Hindu Shrines and Religious Places (Management and Regulation) Bill stalled. Former legislator and prominent BJP leader Devender Singh Rana on Monday said there was nothing uncomfortable in the legislation except preservation of the valuable religious treasure of Kashmiri Pandits back home in the Valley.

"I say it on record that sustained efforts were made to stall the passage of the Bill", Rana said while paying tribute to Pandit Prem Nath Bhat on Chetna Divas here this afternoon organized by Pandit Prem Nath Bhat Memorial Trust.

The gathering was addressed by Swami Kumarji and Justice (retd)



Prominent BJP leader Devender Singh Rana speaking at a programme in Jammu.

Sumil Hali. Ashok Koul, General Secretary (Org) BJP, was the presiding guest on the occasion.

He said the machinations against the Kashmiri Pandits did not end up with their horrible exodus at the gun-point but it continued thereafter too

with slogans like 'honourable and safe return' becoming a fashion statement for all those donning the mantle of governance. They did nothing except delivering emotive slogans without any substance, he added.

The BJP leader however lauded the

resilience and assimilative character of the brave community which weathered all storms with fortitude. He described the forced exodus of the entire ethnic community from their homes and hearths as one of the major tragedies of the twentieth century and sought Truth & Reconciliation Commission under a retired Supreme Court Judge to find out the circumstance leading to commission of human rights violation of such a magnitude.

"Ethnic cleansing of aborigines from their land of ancestors is unheard", Rana observed, saying it is a matter of concern for people to become refugees in their own country.

Rana wondered why the pain of lakhs of displaced people has not evoked the conscience of the self-styled champions of human rights for over three

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)

Max: 20.4°C Min: 9.6°C

Humidity

Max : 80 Min : 66

Temperature (Srinagar)

Max: 8.7°C Min: 2.2°C

Humidity

Max : 74 Min: 73

Sunset : 17:34 Hours

Sunrise : 07:32 Hours