Regd. No. JK/346/2019/2021

Task before present Delimitation Commission very

challenging since wrongs of 7 decades have to be undone

Arnia dacoity case solved; Kingpin among 5 accused arrested

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

JU Women Basketball, Badminton teams

leave for North Zone Tournaments

Air surcharge 50 paisa for Leh

Hyderpora encounter: SIT threatens legal action over speculative remarks about probe

SRINAGAR: The Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing the Hyderpora Wednesday threatened legal action against political leaders in Jammu and Kashmir for "speculative" making statements investigation.

In a statement issued by the police here, the SIT chairman said the probe team has come across posts on social media from some political leaders and family members casting "doubts upon the evidences obtained by SIT so

"These people have tried to call it 'Concocted Cover up Story', 'Ornamental Probe', 'Clean Chit to Killers', 'Fairy Tale of Police' etc," it said.

"Such speculative statements from the political leaders have tendency to provocation,

among the general masses or particular section of society. This kind of approach is against the rule of law and may attract appropriate penal provisions as envisaged under law," the chairman said in a statement.

It said the government had ordered a magisterial probe into the incident and all such person making statements should have approached the inquiry officer with genuine evidences they have, for corroboration or con-

"The SIT constituted in the instant case is still investigating the matter, all such persons are once again advised to provide any type of evidence if they have regarding the incident so that every aspect of investigation is covered and concluded on merits," the statement

"Pertinent to mention

new cases, followed by 22

There are 1,276 active

cases in the UT, while the

number of recoveries has

reached 3,35,227, the offi-

Meanwhile, Ladakh has

reported 34 fresh COVID-19

cases, taking the tally to

cials said.

cases in Jammu district.

also that vide District Magistrate vide his Order DMS/JUDIN-QUIRY/2838/2845/2021 Dated: 18.11.2021 wherein magisterial enquiry was initiated under section 176 Cr.Pe and accordingly

the enquiry officer vide

 $\mathrm{ADM}(\mathrm{K})/\mathrm{PSINQ}/2021/11$ 68/1172 Dated: 18.11.2021 issued a general notice through the electronic and print media and invited members of the general public to record his/her statement if any such person has any acquaintance or knowledge or proof regarding the incident", a police

spokesperson added. Meanwhile, the father of Amir Magray, one of the four persons killed in the Hyderpora encounter in Srinagar, on Wednesday rejected the police probe which suggested that his son was a militant, and said he is moving the High Court seeking the return of his body.

The special investigation team (SIT) of the Jammu and Kashmir Police, prob-Hyderpora the encounter, on Tuesday said while one civilian was killed by the foreign terrorist, the owner of the building and a local "militant" (Magray) died in the crossfire after being used as a "human shield" by the hiding terrorist.

A Pakistani terrorist and three other persons were killed in Hyderpora on November 15 and the police had claimed that all the slain men had links to militancy. The families of the three, alleging foul play, had said that they were innocent, prompting the police to order the inquiry. This was one of the rare operations carried out jointly by the army and the Jammu and Kashmir Police within the

GST Council to discuss rate rationalisation on Dec 31

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The GST Council, chaired by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, will meet on December 31 and discuss, among other things, report of the panel of state ministers on rate rationalisation.

This will be a physical meeting, which will also discuss correction in duty inversion in certain goods

The 46th GST Council meeting will be held

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Modi to release 10th installment of PM-KISAN fund on Jan 1

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: On the first day of the New Year, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will release the 10th instalment of financial benefit under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Nidhi Samman KISAN), transferring an amount of over Rs 20,000 crore to more than 10 crore beneficiary farmer families. The Prime Minister's Office (PMO) said

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9



A worker selling Kangris, a type of traditional fire-pots at Jammu Bus Stand.

Chowk, National Highway-1A, January.

D.Ortho, MS, MCh Ortho, Chief Orthopsedic Surgeon

29 Dec.202 FOR APPOINTMENT CALL

J&K Housing Board invites e-auction of Commercial & residential properties

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir Housing Board (JKHB) has invited bidders for e-auction of different Commercial and residential properties (plots/shops/flats) on 'as is where is basis' in Jammu and Srinagar on 20 year lease basis. The bid for allotment shall be enter-

tained only through https:// jkhm.auctiontiger.net. The last date for submission of the ebids is till January 10, 2022 upto 6:00 PM.

For more details for auction sites in Channi Himmat in Jammu and Bemina in Srinagar please visit the Facebook, twitter and Instagram accounts of STATE TIMES.

J&K sees over 104 new coronavirus cases, Ladakh 34

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir recorded 104 fresh cases on Wednesday, pushing the infection count to 3,41,028, while no fresh death due to the virus was reported from the Union Territory in the past 24 hours, officials said.

The death toll from the pandemic remained unchanged at 4,525, they

Thirty-nine of the fresh coronavirus cases were from the Jammu division and 65 from the Kashmir division the officials said.

They said Srinagar district recorded a maximum of 33

Intense cold wave across

3 terrorists killed, cop injured in separate encounters in south Kashmir

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Three terrorists were killed and a policeman was injured in two separate encounters between security forces and ultras in Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday, police said.

22,140, officials said. The encounters broke out There are 214 active cases in Kulgam and Anantnag - 159 in Leh and 55 in Kargil districts both in south -- in the Union Territory, Kashmir. Acting on specific input they said.

Ladakh has recorded 219 about the presence of ter-COVID-related deaths -- 161 rorists in Mirhama area of Kulgam, security forces in Leh and 58 in Kargil -since the outbreak of the launched a cordon and search operation there, a pandemic last year, police official said.

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

were conducting searches

rorists fired upon them.

The forces retaliated and an encounter ensued in which three terrorists were killed, the official said. The identity and group

affiliation of the slain ter-

rorists are being ascertained, he added. The second encounter took place in Nowgam Shahabad area of Dooru in neighbouring Anantnag,

the official said. In the initial firing, a policeman was injured and he was shifted to the hospi-

tal, he said.

The exchange of fire is still going on and further details are awaited, he said.

in HM narco-terror case after the arrest of Allah

NIA files charge-sheet against 2

STATE TIMES NEWS

CHANDIGARH: The NIA on Wednesday filed a third supplementary charge sheet in a special court in Mohali against two narcotics traffickers, including a Pakistani national, for their alleged involvement in a narco-terror case of Hizbul Mujahideen terror group, an official said.

Charges have been slapped on Gurjant Singh of Amritsar and Nasir of Pakistan under sections of the IPC, the NDPS Act and the UA (P) Act, the official of the premier investigation agency said.

The case was registered in April last year in Amritsar

Ahmed Shergojri, seizure of a truck and recovery of Rs 29 lakh from his possession.

He was an overground worker and a close associate of Riyaz Ahmad Naikoo, the then commander of Hizbul Mujahideen in Kashmir, the NIA official said.

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) took over the investigation in May last

Earlier, a charge sheet against 12 accused was filed by the NIA in this case.

Guriant Singh, a narcotics trafficker, was in close con-

tact with other

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

CBI court summons former Div Coms Kashmir, others in Roshni scam

Kashmir; Gulmarg coldest **STATE TIMES NEWS** SRINAGAR: The cold wave

conditions intensified across Kashmir as Gulmarg skiing resort witnessed season's record low with mercury plunging more than 10 degrees below the freezing point, officials said on Wednesday.

Kashmir valley is currently under the grip of the 40-day harshest winter period known as 'Chilla-i-Kalan' which began on Tuesday.

Gulmarg, the famous skiing resort in north Kashmir, recorded a low of minus 10.4 degrees Celsius. It was down one degree from minus 9.4 degrees compared to the previous night, the officials said.

Pahalgam, which serves as the base camp for the annual Amarnath yatra, recorded a low of minus 6.6 degrees Celsius up from minus 7.9 degrees Celsius the previous

Srinagar saw a low of minus 2.3 degrees Celsius last night down from the

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Min: 55



Sunset: 17:36 Hours

Sunrise: 07:33 Hours

Max: 93

STATE TIMES NEWS JAMMU: Special Judge CBI

Srinagar Jatinder Singh Jamwal has summoned Basharat Ahmad Dhar, Mehboob Iqbal, both former Divisional Commissioners Kashmir, Ejaz Iqbal former Commissioner, Mushtaq Ahmad Malik Commissioner Assistant Khan (Nazool). Akram Tehsildar and Sajjad Parvez, a political leader in much publicized Roshni scam.

It is worthwhile to mention here that CBI registered FIR No. RC 4(A)/2020 of Police Station CBI, ACB, Srinagar for commission of

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The trustees

of Temple of Understanding

India Foundation, headed by

veteran Congress leader

Karan Singh, on Wednesday

termed the alleged hate

speeches against minorities

by "some Hindu swamis" as

'shocking" and said India

cannot afford hostile and

divisive statements from any

religion, far less from

Hinduism which represents

the vast majority in the coun-

They expressed their deep

"shock and horror" at the

"utterances" by some Hindu

religious leaders at Dharma

Sansad organised in

Uttarakhand's Haridwar

and Chhattisgarh's capital

Raipur recently, and said

"insulted"

have

offence made punishable under Section 420 of RPC read with 5(2) of J&K Prevention of Corruption Act, Svt, 2006 read with Section 5(1)(d) of Act and after completion of investigation, Challan was presented. $_{
m Judge}$ CBISrinagar Jatinder Singh Jamwal observed that instant case was registered by CBI-ACB, Srinagar in pursuance of directions made by Division Bench of the High Court of J&K vide its order dated: 09-10-2020 in a Pubic Interest Litigation (in short PIL), bearing No.

19/2011, entitled: 'Professor

Hinduism itself by making

These events highlight the

importance of "re-energising"

the interfaith movement

which strives to bring togeth-

er people of different reli-

gious persuasions in a har-

monious and creative dia-

Temple of Understanding

India Foundation, under the

chairmanship of Karan

Singh, expressed their deep

shock and horror at the

recent utterances by some

Hindu swamis in Hardwar

and elsewhere. The open call

for genocide of minorities is

absolutely shocking," they

trustees of

said in a statement.

Foundation underlined

'The trustees of the

logue, they stressed.

"such statements".

'Hindu Swamis' insulted Hinduism

with their hate speech: Karan Singh

S K Bhalla Vs. State of J&K and others', the investigation whereof culminated in finding accused persons liable for commission of offence made punishable under Section 420 of RPC read with Section 120- B of the Code(Supra) as also for offence under Section 5(2) of Prevention Corruption Act, Svt. 2006 read with Section 5(1)(d) of Act (Supra). After considering submis-

sions made by the Public Prosecutor for CBI and perused the record, the Court observed, "Court is

IT Deptt relaxes time till Feb 2022 for taxpayers to complete verification of FY20 ITRs

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Taxpayers who have not e-verified their ITRs for 2019-20 fiscal can complete the verification process by February 28, 2022, as the Income Tax department has given a onetime relaxation to assessees.

As per law, an income tax return (ITR), filed electronically without a digital signature, has to be verified electronically through Aadhaar OTP, or net-banking, or code sent through demat account, pre-validated bank account and ATM within 120 days of Alternatively, taxpayers

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Crime Branch presents charge-sheet against 3 for duping youth on pretext of providing jobs abroad

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Crime Branch of Jammu and Kashmir Police on Wednesday filed a charge-sheet against three people for allegedly duping unemployed youth by promising them jobs in New

Zealand. peran official spokesperson, the sleuths of Crime Branch present charge-sheet in the court of Chief Judicial Magistrate against Suresh Kumar, son of Tulsi Ram, resident of Khara Madana, Tehsil Bari Brahmana, District Samba; Ghar Singh, son of Janak Singh, resident of Sainik

Colony, Jammu and Tulsi Ram, son of Jethu Ram, resident of Khara Madana, Tehsil Bari Brahmana, District Samba in FIR No. 22/2017 registered under sections 420, 120-B of RPC at Police Station Crime Branch, Jammu. Presently, Ghar Singh is absconding, he said. "Rajeev Kumar, son of Puran Chand, resident of Mukhra Phallian Mandal, Jammu and Vinay Sharma, son of Girdhari Lal Sharma, resident of 85. Ward No. 5, Rajeev Colony, Bari Brahmna, in 2017, lodged a joint written complaint with police alleging that Suresh Kumar, who 'Uncle's Consultants' at Trikuta Nagar, had taken several lakhs of rupees from them on pretext of providing them jobs in New Zealand," the spokesperson said, adding that involvement of three accused was fully established during the course of the inquiry. As accused Ghar Singh is absconding at present, charge-sheet under section 512 of CrPC has been produced against him before the Chief Judicial Magistrate, Jammu for judicial determination, he

781, Delhi logs maximum cases Omicron tally in country rises to

disease

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: India has recorded 781 cases of the Omicron variant of coronavirus across 21 states and UTs so far out of which 241 people have recovered or migrated, according to the Union Health Ministry data updated on Wednesday.

Delhi recorded the maximum number of 238 cases followed by Maharashtra at 167. Guiarat 73. Kerala 65 and Telangana 62.

With 9,195 people testing positive for coronavirus infection in a day, India's total tally of COVID-19 cases rose to 3,48,08,886, while the active cases increased to 77,002, according to the data updated at 8

The death toll has climbed to 4,80,592 with 302 fresh ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

fatalities, the data stated. The daily rise in new coronavirus infections has been recorded below 15,000 for the last 62 days now.

The active cases comprise 0.22 per cent of the total infections, the lowest since March 2020, while the national COVID-19 recovery rate was recorded at 98.40 per cent, the highest since March 2020, the ministry

An increase of 1,546 cases has been recorded in the active COVID-19 caseload in a span of 24 hours.

The daily positivity rate was recorded at 0.79 per cent. It has been less than two per cent for last 86 days. The weekly positivity rate was also recorded at 0.68 per cent. It has been below one per cent for the last 45 days,

according to the ministry. The number of people who have recuperated from the

surged

3,42,51,292, while the case fatality rate was recorded at 1.38 per cent. The cumulative doses administered in the country

so far under the nationwide COVID-19 vaccination drive has exceeded 143.15 crore. India's COVID-19 tally had crossed the 20-lakh mark on

August 7, 2020, 30 lakh on August 23, 40 lakh on September 5 and 50 lakh on September 16. It went past 60 lakh on September 28, 70 lakh on October 11, crossed 80 lakh on October 29, 90 lakh on November 20 and surpassed the one-crore mark on December 19.

India crossed the grim milestone of two crore on

May 4 and three crore on June 23.

The 302 new fatalities include 244 from Kerala and 22 from Maharashtra.

Of the 244 deaths in Kerala, 38 were recorded over the last few days and 206 designated as COVID-19 deaths after receiving appeals based on the new guidelines of the Centre and the directions of the Supreme Court.

A total of 4,80,592 deaths have been reported so far in country including 1,41,476 from Maharashtra, 47,066 from Kerala, 38,318 Karnataka, 36,750 from Tamil Nadu, 25,107 from Delhi. 22.915 from Uttar Pradesh and 19,733 from West Bengal. The ministry stressed that more

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

J&K emerges leading performer in incremental performance in country: Report STATE TIMES NEWS

JammuKashmir has emerged as the leading performer in terms of incremental performance as per data released by NITI Aayog in the fourth Health Index report. Among Union Territories, Delhi followed by Jammu & Kashmir, has shown the best incremental performance. In incremental performance, J&K is ranked at number second position with a score of 9.55. In J&K, most of the indicators are in the improved/most improved/fully achieved cate-Incremental Performance from the Base Year (2018-19) to Reference Year (2019-20) is concerned. The Health & Medical

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9