

STATE TIMES

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03 Admin focused on exploring full potential of J&K's pilgrimage tourism: LG

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India great power, time-tested friend of Russia: Putin



Prime Minister Narendra Modi meeting President of Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin at Hyderabad House in New Delhi

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Describing India as a "great power" and a "time-tested" friend, Russian President Vladimir Putin on Monday identified terrorism, drug trafficking and organised crime as common challenges facing both countries.

In his initial remarks during in-person talks with Prime Minister Narendra Modi here, Putin also expressed concern over the developments in Afghanistan and said India and Russia will continue to coordinate on major challenges facing the region.

"We perceive India as a great power, a friendly nation and a time-tested friend. The relations between our countries are

developing and we are looking into the future," Putin said.

Modi said Putin's second visit abroad during the COVID-19 pandemic reflected his personal commitment to the India-Russia ties and that the special and privileged strategic partnership between the two sides was getting stronger.

In the last few decades, the world witnessed many fundamental changes and different kinds of geopolitical equations and variables, but the friendship of India and Russia remained constant, Modi said.

"Your visit to India is a reflection of your commitment to ties with India,"

India, Russia ink 28 pacts

NEW DELHI: India and Russia on Monday inked 28 agreements to further broaden their partnership and vowed to expand cooperation and coordination in dealing with major challenges like the threat of terrorism and the unfolding situation in Afghanistan. Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla described the summit talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Russian President Vladimir Putin as "highly productive". He said 28 agreements that included government-to-government pacts were concluded between the two sides in a number of areas. Asked whether India raised the issue of the eastern Ladakh standoff, the foreign secretary only said all concerns relating to India's security were discussed.

the prime minister said.

Putin said both sides continue to cooperate on global issues and the positions of the two sides on many issues have similarities.

"Naturally, we are concerned about everything that has to do with terrorism. I mean the fight against terrorism and the fight against drug trafficking and organised crime," Putin said. "In this regard,

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Terrorist, associate arrested in Sopore

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Security forces on Monday arrested a terrorist and his associate in Sopore in Baramulla district, police said.

Acting on a specific input regarding the presence of a terrorist in Ningli area of Sopore in the north Kashmir district, a cordon-and-search operation was launched by the security forces, a police spokesman said. "During the search operation, a

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Selfie point in Jammu damaged, FIR lodged

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The first-ever selfie point with an installation 'I love Jammu' set up under the smart city mission at B C Road here was damaged by unidentified persons, following which an FIR was lodged in the case, officials said on Monday.

The selfie point was inaugurated by Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Jammu Smart City Limited (JSCL) Anyv Lavasa on October

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Leave India if you feel suffocated here: Indresh tells Farooq Abdullah



should go wherever he wants, Arab or America. His wife lives in England. He can also think of going there to live with his wife. He will be happy," the RSS leader added.

Abdullah on Sunday said the people of Jammu and Kashmir may have to make "sacrifices", like the farmers protesting against three farm laws did, to restore its statehood and special status.

Addressing a convention of the NC's youth wing on the occasion of the 116th birth anniversary of party founder Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah at Naseembagh in Srinagar, the former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister also said his party does not support violence.

"Farooq Abdullah had earlier said China's help will be taken for the restoration of Jammu and Kashmir's special status. Shall we accept it? Never. It is nonsense. If he feels suffocated here, he

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Jammu-Lakhanpur NH turns into garbage dump; Gujarat-based company fails to maintain

Former revenue officials among four charge-sheeted for land-grabbing by impersonation, fraud

HITESH MAHAJAN

JAMMU: The Jammu-Lakhanpur National Highway has turned into a garbage dump as heaps of garbage can be seen along highway besides the repair

Gujarat-based company given contract of Rs 16 Crore for 24 months to maintain NH

work of the NH is not being carried out properly. Thus putting the lives of passengers at risk.

Pertinent to mention that the tender was allotted to a Gujarat based company to maintain Jammu to Lakhanpur road in Rs 16 crore for 24 months.

The tender include cleanli-

ness along highway; repair of dividers; plantation, shifting of accident victims including animals etc. But surprisingly, nothing has been seen on ground so far as heaps of garbage are lying along high-

way, dividers are covered with bushes posing serious accident threats.

"How can we expect our tourism industry to grow if we cannot even provide smooth and clean roads to the pilgrims and tourists," owner of a restaurant near Samba town, said

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108 new COVID cases in J&K, two more die

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir recorded 108 fresh coronavirus cases on Monday, pushing the infection count to 3,37,915, while two fatalities in the past 24 hours raised the death toll to 4,483, officials said.

Twenty-two of the new cases were from the Jammu division and 86 from the Kashmir division of the Union Territory, the officials said.

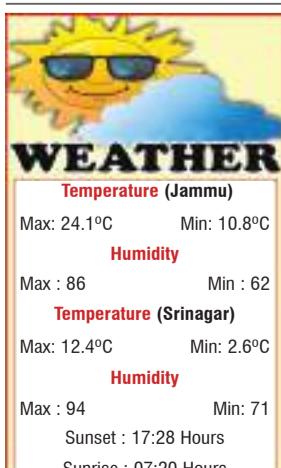
They said Srinagar district recorded a maximum of 40 fresh COVID-19 cases followed by Baramulla and Jammu districts, both of which registered 11 new infections.

There are 1,661 active coronavirus cases in Jammu and Kashmir, while the count of recoveries has reached 3,31,771, the officials said.

Meanwhile, Ladakh has reported 31 fresh COVID-19 cases, taking the tally to 21,714, while the number

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WEATHER	
Temperature (Jammu)	
Max: 24.1°C	Min: 10.8°C
Humidity	
Max : 86	Min : 62
Temperature (Srinagar)	
Max: 12.4°C	Min: 2.6°C
Humidity	
Max : 94	Min: 71
Sunset : 17:28 Hours	
Sunrise : 07:20 Hours	

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ACB presents charge-sheet against XE, AAO in trap case

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) has produced charge-sheet against two Government employees namely Rajinder Kumar, Executive Engineer and Mohd Farooq, Assistant Accounts Officer, SAMAGRA (Education Division, SSA/RMSA, Div III-IV) Jammu for release of long pending bills. "Complainant has alleged that he had carried out partial construction work. He had received payment of Rs. 29.97 lakh in February, 2020. After completion of some more work, bills worth Rs 15 lakh were raised by him. The accused officials withheld payment on the grounds that their share in respect of the earlier payment has not been paid in terms of 2 per cent and 1.5 per cent respectively as such Rs 45,000 was demanded for release of new

bills. On receipt of complaint, FIR No. 05/20 under section 7 of Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Act read with 120B of IPC was registered against accused public servants and were subsequently caught red-handed while demanding and accepting bribe. After receiving sanction from Government, a charge-sheet of the case was produced against the accused in the Anti-Corruption Court, Jammu for judicial determination," said official, adding that next date of hearing has been fixed on January 3, 2022.

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