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If borders are safe, prosperity will follow: LG

Visits BoP, briefed about area domination

STATE TIMES NEWS
SAMBA: Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Tuesday said that if borders are safe, prosperity will follow in all the areas.

During his visit to a border outpost (BoP) and a hamlet along the International Border (IB) in Samba, the LG lauded the commitment of the Border Security Force and their devotion to the duty.

He was briefed about the security situation and area domination exercise by the BSF, officials said.

Sinha visited the BoP at Chamliya and was received by BSF IG of Jammu frontier D K Boora and DIG Surjeet Singh, they said, adding that the LG also witnessed a display of weaponry at the BoP.

He interacted with BSF troops and praised them for their extraordinary service and hard work.

The Lt Governor also paid



LG Manoj Sinha during visit to Border village Channi Fatwal, Samba on Tuesday.

obesance at the revered shrine of Baba Chamliyal near international border, where he prayed for the peace, prosperity and the well being of the people of J&K.

People of all faiths pay obeisance at the shrine of Baba Dalip Singh Manhas, a saint popularly known as Baba Chamliyal. Till 1971,

Pakistani nationals were allowed to come to the Indian side of the border to pay obeisance at the shrine.

The LG reviewed the developmental scenario in the border areas of the Samba district.

Addressing the gathering of local people and PRI representatives, the Lt Governor observed that the J&K

Administration is committed to ensure that the border villages have best infrastructure at par with developed towns.

"J&K has started development 'Utsav' in bordering villages. Our aim is to provide maximum resources to the bordering villages", he added.

The Lt Governor also launched "Panchayat Darpan" App, first web portal in J&K UT designed and created by NIC Samba, which provides information regarding Panchayats' profiles, department wise Schemes, Social Security schemes, panchayat wise data on development works, grievances, financial achievements, auditing, and other aspects of various line departments.

Interacting with PRI representatives and the people of the border area, the Lt Governor took first

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Govt announces winter vacation for Jammu division

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The government on Tuesday announced winter vacation up to 12th standard for all schools falling in winter zones Jammu division from December 13 to February 28, 2022.

Besides, the School Education Department also said that the vacations in the summer areas of the zone shall also observe from December 24 to January 2,

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Court rejects bail plea of ASI in trap case

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Special Judge, CBI Cases Jammu, Sanjeev Gupta rejected bail application of Sham Lal ASI, who was caught red-handed by CBI while accepting bribe.

Special Judge CBI Cases Jammu Sanjeev Gupta while rejecting the bail application observed that petitioner, an officer of significant importance in police hierarchy, fell for greed and exhorting graft money from the

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Change yourself or there could be changes: Modi tells BJP MPs

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi pressed BJP MPs again on Tuesday for regular attendance in Parliament saying even kids would not like repeated prodding, and said they must bring change in themselves, otherwise changes do come about, sources said.

The prime minister made the remarks at the BJP parliamentary party meeting at the Ambedkar International Centre here, the sources told PTI.

Sharing details of the meeting, which was for the first time held outside the Parliament Complex, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi said the prime minister told party MPs that all of them should organise sports competitions in their respective constituencies.

Modi also asked the party MPs to organise programmes in their respective con-



stituencies to felicitate Padma awardees, Joshi said. According to the sources, the issue of attendance came up several times during the meeting which was attended by the BJP top brass.

The prime minister categorically told the party MPs they should regularly attend Parliament proceedings and remarked that even kids do not like to be pointed out on an issue again and again.

The poor attendance of BJP MPs in Parliament had been flagged by Modi several times in the past.

"Modi ji said 'apne mein

parivartan laiye, varna parivartan toh aa hi jata' (bring change in yourself otherwise changes do come about)," a party source who was present in the meeting told PTI.

At the meeting, BJP president J P Nadda asked party MPs to call district presidents and presidents of mandals from their respective constituencies for tea and interact with them.

Accordingly, the prime minister will call district presidents from his constituency Varanasi on December 14.

At the start of the meeting, tribal MPs, including Union Minister Arjun Munda, felicitated Prime Minister Modi for celebrating Birsa Munda's birthday as 'Jan Jatiya Divas'.

A book compiling the work done by various ministers on the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav was distributed among BJP MPs.

The Winter Session of Parliament started

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150-200 e-buses to be introduced soon Govt aims to reduce dependence on fossil fuels, promote greener, sustainable mobility solutions: Sinha

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday said the Government is aiming at reducing dependence on fossil fuels and promoting greener, sustainable mobility solutions, adding that electric vehicles are the future of transport as they are eco-friendly, ideal for urban environment, and contributes in reducing pollution levels.

Chairing a preliminary meeting with the Chairman and MD of Oleetra Greentech Ltd, KV Pradeep, the Lieutenant Governor discussed the modalities for introducing electric buses for

cleaner, better inter-city and intra-city transport facilities in the UT of J&K.

The Chairman Oleetra Greentech Ltd, an electric vehicle manufacturing company, gave a powerpoint presentation and briefed the Lt Governor about the company which has, so far, deployed around 600 electric buses across India and has 2500 buses under manufacturing process.

The Lt Governor asked the Chairman to send two electric buses on a trial basis, one each for Srinagar and Jammu. Depending upon the trial outcome, the

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Army conducts helicopter-borne training exercise in Kashmir along with Navy, Air Force

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Srinagar-based Chinara Corps of the Army on Tuesday conducted a helicopter-borne training and validation exercise in the higher reaches of the Kashmir Valley.

"This was a tri-service exercise undertaken in Kashmir with the Indian Air Force, the Navy and the Army," an Army official said.

He said the exercise was planned to validate the joint capability to insert the task force tactically behind enemy lines in an intense air defence and electronic warfare operating environment.



"The successful conduct of the mission validated the true spirit of jointness achieved in planning, utilisation of resources and accomplishment of laid down mis-

sion objectives as a true reflection of the tri-service ethos of the Indian Armed Forces," the official said.

He said the helicopter-dropped task force operated

in snow-clad region at heights over 9,000 feet and included troops from the Infantry, the Special Forces and the MARCOS from the Indian Navy.

"The heli drop exercise included full transportation and armed helicopters from the Indian Army and the Indian Air Force, including the Apaches attack helicopters. Aspects related to electronic warfare were also validated," he added.

The official said the exercise showcased the capability of the Chinara Corps and the Indian Army to carry

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Sarpanch among four booked for using 'fake category certificate' in Panchayat polls

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Crime Branch Jammu has booked four persons including a Sarpanch and two Revenue officials for allegedly producing a fake category certificate to contest 'Panchayat elections' in Panchayat Halqa Bhajnova, Nowshera Rajouri.

A spokesperson of Crime Branch Jammu said, "A criminal case under the relevant sections of law was registered against Sarpanch Santosh Kumari, wife of Bidhi Chand (daughter of Nand Lal); her husband Bidhi Chand, resident of village Bhajnova; Akbar Hussain, the then Tehsildar

Nowshera and Balvinder Kumar, the then Patwari Nowshera for their involvement in obtaining and facilitating a Scheduled Caste Category Certificate by fraudulent means and its use by Sarpanch as genuine during elections." The official further said that a written complaint was lodged by one Joginder Singh, son of Kasturi Lal, resident of Bhajnova with Crime Branch Jammu, alleging inter-alia that his wife Sheetal Kour, resident of village Bhajnova had also contested election as Sarpanch candidate in reserve

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Cold wave grips Kashmir

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: The minimum temperature across Kashmir fell below freezing point again on Tuesday, after a day's respite from subzero temperatures, even as the weather office forecast possibility of a wet spell in the valley over two days from Wednesday. Gulmarg resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district recorded a minimum temperature of minus 7 degrees Celsius, the officials said.

They said the resort was the coldest recorded place in the valley.

Srinagar recorded a low of minus 1.4 degrees Celsius on Monday night, a plunge of four degrees from the previous night, the officials said.

They said Pahalgam, which serves as the base camp for the annual Amarnath yatra, recorded a low of minus 4.8 degrees Celsius, dropping more than five degrees.

The minimum temperature in Kupwara in

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129 Cr COVID vaccine doses administered in India Daily cases lowest in 558 days

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: The cumulative COVID-19 vaccine doses administered in the country crossed 129 crore on Tuesday, the Union Health Ministry said.

Over 66 lakh vaccine doses were administered on Tuesday till 7 pm, it said.

According to the ministry, the daily vaccination tally is expected to increase with the compilation of the final reports for the day by late in the night.

The countrywide vaccination drive was rolled out on January 16 with healthcare workers getting inoculated in the first phase. The vaccina-

tion of frontline workers started from February 2.

The next phase of COVID-19 vaccination commenced from March 1 for people over 60 years of age and those aged 45 and above with specified co-morbid conditions.

India launched vaccination for all people aged more than 45 years from April 1.

The government then decided to expand its vaccination drive by allowing everyone above 18 to be vaccinated from May 1.

Meanwhile, India has logged 6,822 new coronavirus infections, the lowest in 558 days, taking the country's tally of COVID-19 cases

to 3,46,48,383, while the active cases declined to 95,014, according to the Union Health Ministry data updated.

The death toll climbed to 4,73,757 with 220 fresh fatalities, according to the data updated at 8 am.

The daily rise in new coronavirus infections has been recorded below 10,000 for 11 straight days and less than 50,000 cases have been recorded for 163 consecutive days now.

The active cases comprise 0.27 per cent of the total infections, the lowest since March 2020, while

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J&K Admn announces austerity measures to promote fiscal discipline

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir administration has announced detailed austerity measures to promote fiscal discipline and ensure a balanced pace of expenditure without restricting operational efficiency.

Financial Commissioner (Additional Chief Secretary) in the Finance Department Atal Dulloo issued the guidelines in a three-page order addressed to government departments and autonomous bodies funded by the government and asked the administrative secretaries to ensure

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All primary schools in J&K to have Kindergartens by March 31

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta on Tuesday chaired a meeting to review the functioning of the School Education Department and progress achieved under various schemes during the ongoing financial year.

Administrative Secretaries of the departments of Finance, School Education, besides Directors School Education, Jammu/Kashmir, and Director, Samagra Shiksha participated in the meeting.

It was informed that during this academic year, the

Government and Private schools in the Union territory registered a cumulative enrollment of 22,07,296 students with 80% of schools functioning in the Government sector. As per the educational indicators on the revised population on the pattern of the UIDAI, the gross enrollment ratio in respect of Jammu and Kashmir at primary level, upper primary level, high school, and higher secondary level is 111.65%, 80.53%, 72.52%, and 60.53%, respectively.

It was further informed that the Department has

implemented several key reforms in the school education sector including the roll-out of transparent and simplified transfer policy; implementation of KGBV guidelines; maintaining an affiliation and recognition portal; framing rules for fee fixation committee, and ensuring PFMS based cashless transactions.

To boost gender parity in educational avenues, the Department has laid special focus on tribal and backward areas and has constructed 15 girls hostels in identified areas, whereas, 25

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Situation in J&K grave, PM failed to remove 'Dil & Dilli Ki Doori': Farooq

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The situation in the Jammu and Kashmir is grave as Prime Minister Narendra Modi has failed to keep his promise of removing "dil ki doori and Dilli ki doori", National Conference (NC) president Farooq Abdullah said here on Tuesday.

Abdullah was addressing a day-long convention of the NC in Jammu.

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi promised us of removing 'dil ki doori and Dilli ki doori' (distance between hearts and the distance with Delhi). Neither were the hearts connected, nor was the distance between J-K and Delhi bridged. He should tell the people if anything has changed," Abdullah said.

Apparently referring to



NC President Farooq Abdullah addressing a press conference in Jammu.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah's statement without naming him that the situation in J-K has improved after the abrogation of Article 370, the NC leader said false claims are being made even though the situation on the ground is grave.

Responding to senior RSS leader Indresh Kumar who hit out at him over his remarks that the people of Jammu and Kashmir may have to make "sacrifices" like the agitating farmers to get their rights back and suggested that Abdullah should

leave the country, the NC president said he is an Indian and will die an Indian.

Abdullah said the fight for restoration of J-K's special status will neither be easy nor will God send someone to fight it for us.

"We have to stand up and fight for our rights. We have not picked up guns or grenades or hurled a stone. We do not demand prime ministership or presidency but our fight is for our rights which were snatched from us," Abdullah said.

"We will fight and fight with honesty as we are on the path of (Mahatma) Gandhi and want to restore Gandhi's India," he said.

Launching a scathing attack on the BJP-led central government over the functioning of Parliament,

the Lok Sabha MP said the ability of the ruling party to listen patiently to the opposition has disappeared.

He said his father Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah used to hail former prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru for his patience during Parliament sessions.

"Nehru used to attend Parliament unlike our present Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who remains missing. Nehru used to listen to the opposition leaders silently," Abdullah said.

However, he said, the ability to listen has disappeared under the present dispensation, and no one in the ruling party is ready to listen.

Referring to the three contentious agri laws, Abdullah said the government

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132 more catch COVID in J&K, 4 die

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir's virus tally reached 3,38,047 on Tuesday with the addition of 132 cases, while the fatality count mounted to 4,487 after four people died due to the disease in the past 24 hours, officials said.

Twenty-nine of the new cases were from the Jammu division and 103 from the Kashmir division of the Union territory, the officials said. They said Srinagar district recorded a maximum of 32 cases, followed by 25 cases in Budgam district.

There are 1,601 active COVID-19 cases in the Union territory, while the number of recoveries has reached 3,31,959, the officials said.

Meanwhile, Ladakh has

reported nine fresh cases of COVID-19, taking the infection tally to 21,723, officials said. All the nine fresh cases were reported in Leh, they said. The active cases in the union territory has gone down to 270 -- 249 in Leh and 21 in Kargil district -- with 34 people recovering from the infection.

Ladakh has registered 215 deaths due to the coronavirus -- 157 in Leh district and 58 in Kargil -- since the outbreak of the pandemic.

Thirty-four patients recovered from the infection and were discharged from hospital from Leh. The total number of recovered patients rose to 21,238, they said.

A total of 845 samples in Ladakh were found negative, they said.

WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
 Max: 24.0°C Min: 9.0°C

Humidity
 Max: 84 Min: 63

Temperature (Srinagar)
 Max: 12.0°C Min: -1.4°C

Humidity
 Max: 93 Min: 67

Sunset : 17:26 Hours
 Sunrise : 07:21 Hours