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CDS Gen Rawat, wife, 11 others killed in helicopter crash

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
COONOOR (TN): India's first Chief of Defence Staff (CDS), General Bipin Rawat, his wife and 11 others were killed in a helicopter crash near here on Wednesday, the Indian Air Force said.

The copter carrying Gen Rawat, appointed as CDS in 2019, and his entourage crashed in apparently foggy conditions, killing the 13 people on board, the IAF and other officials said. One person survived the crash and is being treated at a hospital.

The mortal remains of the victims will be taken to New Delhi from Coimbatore on Thursday by air, after a wreath-laying ceremony scheduled tomorrow morning at Wellington, police and Defence sources said.

"With deep regret, it has now been ascertained that Gen Bipin Rawat, Mrs Madhulika Rawat and 11 other persons on board have died in the unfortunate accident," the IAF said in a



‘Nation has lost one of its bravest sons’: Prez, VP, PM

NEW DELHI: President Ram Nath Kovind, Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and leaders across the political spectrum condoled the demise of Chief of Defence Staff General Bipin Rawat and hailed his contribution to the armed forces as well as the country.

General Bipin Rawat, his wife and 11 others were killed in a helicopter crash near Coonoor in Tamil Nadu on Wednesday, the Indian Air Force said.

The copter carrying General Rawat and his entourage crashed in apparently foggy conditions, killing the 13 people on board, the IAF and other officials said. One person survived the crash and is being treated

tweet.

Rawat was on a visit to

Defence Services Staff College (DSSC), Wellington

CCS briefed about crash: Official sources

NEW DELHI: The prime minister-led Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) was briefed on Wednesday about a military helicopter crash that led to the death of Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) General Bipin Rawat and other defence personnel near Coonoor in Tamil Nadu.

Besides Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the meeting was attended by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Home Minister Amit Shah, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, official sources said.

National Security Advisor (NSA) Ajit Doval, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister PK Misra and Cabinet Secretary

to address the faculty

29 Patwaris transferred

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
JAMMU: The Government on Wednesday transferred 29 Patwaris.

As per order issued by Deputy Commissioner Jammu Anshul Garg, Mohd Imran Tak has been transferred from Panchayat Halqa (PH) Bahu, Tehsil Bahu and posted to Office Patwari Bhalwal vice Deepak Gupta, who has

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No Govt order to stop journalists from reporting in J&K: Govt to Parliament

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
NEW DELHI: The government on Wednesday informed Parliament that the Jammu and Kashmir government has not issued any order under which journalists can be stopped from reporting if their work threatens peace and public tranquility.

Minister of state for home affairs Nityanand Rai stated this in a written reply to the Rajya Sabha.

"The government of UT of Jammu and Kashmir

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Three LeT terrorists killed in encounter at Shopian

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
SRINAGAR: Three Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT) terrorists were killed in an encounter with security forces in Shopian district on Wednesday, police said.

Security forces launched a cordon and search operation in Chack-i-Cholan village in Shopian following information about the presence of terrorists there, a police official said.

During the search operation, as the presence of terrorists got ascertained, they were given repeated opportunities to surrender; however they fired indiscriminately upon the joint search party which was retaliated leading to an encounter.

One ultra was killed in the early exchange of firing between the two sides, the official said.

During the day-long gun-battle, two more terrorists were killed, he added.

Police identified the slain ultras as Amir Hussain Ganie son of Manzoor



Ahmad resident of Cheek Cholan Shopian, Rayees Ahmed Mir son of Nazir Ahmad resident of Kapran Shopian and Haseeb Ahmad Dar son of Mohd Yousuf Dar resident of Khudwani Kulgam.

A police spokesman said as per official records, all the three terrorists were part of groups involved in several terror crime cases, including attacks on security forces and civilians.

"Pertinently, the killed terrorist, Amir Hussain, was active since September 2020

and involved in several terror crime cases including Case FIR No. 264/2021 of PS Shopian regarding attack on Police/SF at Village Rakhma on 01/10/2021, the spokesman said.

He (Hussain) was also involved in luring gullible youth to join terror folds.

Terrorist Rayees Ahmad was active since June 2021 and involved in several terror crime cases including attack on Police/SF. He was also involved in attack on Police/SF at

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75 vehicles used for terror activities seized in J&K in 2021: Police

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Police on Wednesday accorded sanction for the seizure of a truck used for terror activities, taking the number of such seizures under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) to 75 this year, police said.

Five residential houses, six shops, land and cash have also been seized under the act till date, a police spokesperson said.

Quoting an order issued by the police headquarters here, he said sanction was accorded for the seizure of a truck, which was used by its owner to give shelter to a terrorist who was arrested along with

a huge quantity of explosive substances and other arms and ammunition from the vehicle on the outskirts of Srinagar recently.

The spokesperson said the evidence collected during the course of investigation, following the arrest of the terrorist, revealed that the truck has been sold thrice to different persons before being purchased by Mohd Shafi Dar and was being used for harbouring the terrorist.

The Truck has been used to facilitate and promote terrorist activities and is accordingly liable to be seized. In exercise of powers conferred by section 25 of

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J&K reports 151 new COVID cases, 2 deaths 1.70 cr vaccine doses administered so far

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
SRINAGAR: The Government on Wednesday informed that 151 new positive cases of novel Corona virus (COVID-19), 44 from Jammu division and 107 from Kashmir division, have been reported today, thus taking the total number of positive cases in Jammu and Kashmir to 338198. Also, 02 COVID deaths have been reported; 01 from Jammu Division and 01 from Kashmir Division.

Moreover, 111 more COVID-19 patients have recovered and been discharged from various hospitals including 16 from Jammu Division and 95

DM Jammu notifies Micro Containment Zone

JAMMU: District Magistrate (DM), Jammu, Anshul Garg on Wednesday declared Lane No 1, near KV Hyundai Showroom, Channi Rama of Tehsil Bahu falling under Police Station Trikuta Nagar as Micro Containment Zones.

The following restrictions shall be in place with immediate effect till further orders.

"The aforesaid area shall be under strict lock down and tight perimeter control, except for essential needs. There shall be no movement, whatsoever, in and out of the Micro Containment zones," reads an order issued by DM.

It added for any medical emergency, individuals can contact the 24X7 control room at 0191-2571616, 0191-2571912 and necessary facilitation shall be done.

"It shall be mandatory for the persons residing in designated Containment Zones to get themselves

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from Kashmir Division.

The Bulletin informs that no new case of Mucormycosis has been reported today.

On COVID vaccination, the bulletin informs that 57,35,000 doses of COVID vaccine have been administered

96 civilians, 366 terrorists killed in Kashmir post Art 370 repeal: Govt

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

NEW DELHI: At least 96 civilians have been killed in Kashmir post the abrogation of Article 370 while 366 terrorists have been neutralised by security forces, the government informed Rajya Sabha on Wednesday.

In a written reply, Minister of State for Home Nityanand Rai also said that "no Kashmiri Pandit/Hindu has been displaced from the valley" post the repeal of Article 370 on August 5, 2019. "However, recently some Kashmiri Pandit families, mostly women and

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Terror funding: Court issues summons against HM Chief Syed Salahuddin, others

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
NEW DELHI: A Delhi Court on Wednesday issued summons against Hizb-ul-Mujahideen (HM) chief Syed Salahuddin and others in a money laundering case related to allegedly receiving funds of nearly Rs 80 crore from Pakistan for carrying out terror activities across India.

The court passed the order after taking cognisance of a charge sheet filed by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) under Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

I have gone through the complaint as well as the documents/ evidence annexed with the complaint. After perusing the record, I take cognizance of offence u/s 3 of PMLA punishable u/s 4 of PMLA. Summons be issued to the accused persons for February 7, 2022, Additional Sessions Judge Praveen Singh said.

Besides Salahuddin, the court also summoned Mohammad Shafi Shah, Talib Lali, Gulam Nabi Khan, Umer Farooq Shera, Manzoor Ahmed Dar, Zaffar Hussain Bhat, Nazir Ahmad

Dar, Abdul Majeed Sofi and Mubarak Shah.

The court noted the submission made by ED's special public prosecutor Nitesh Rana, who said that during the investigation, summons were issued to some of the Indian firms involved in barter trading and statements of three of the firms were recorded.

Rana submitted that the HM was involved in funding over Rs 80 crore for terrorist activities in India.

During the investigation, evidence was collected

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Cabinet nod to extension of rural housing scheme for another 3 yrs

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
NEW DELHI: The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved the continuation of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Rural) for another three years to provide financial assistance for the construction of the remaining 155.75 lakh houses under the scheme. Union Minister Anurag Thakur told reporters at a press briefing on decisions taken by the Union Cabinet that the scheme has been extended beyond March 2021, and till March 31, 2024.

The total target is to construct 2.95 crore 'pueca' houses. The total financial implication for construction of the remaining 155.75 lakh hous-

es is Rs 2,17,257 crore, with a central share of Rs 1,25,106 crore and a state share of Rs 73,475 crores for achieving cumulative targets of 2.95 crore houses in rural areas, an official statement later said. "The continuation of the scheme till March 2024 will ensure that the remaining 155.75 lakh households within the overall target of 2.95 crore houses would be provided assistance for construction of pueca houses with basic amenities to achieve the objective of 'housing for all' in rural areas," the statement said. As of November 29 this year, 1.65 crore PMAY-G houses have been constructed out of the total target of 2.95 crore.

Marginal improvement in minimum temperature across Kashmir

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
SRINAGAR: There was a slight improvement in the minimum temperature but the mercury settled below the freezing point across Kashmir on Wednesday, officials said here.

Gulmarg resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district recorded a minimum temperature of minus 6.0 degrees Celsius, the coldest in the valley, they said.

Srinagar recorded a low of minus 0.4 degrees Celsius on Tuesday night, up by one degree 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 3.412/8/2021 11:16:28 AM degrees Celsius.

Mercury at Kupwara in north Kashmir settled at a minimum of minus

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WEATHER
Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 24.2°C Min: 8.7°C
Humidity
Max : 84 Min : 64
Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 12.5°C Min: -0.4°C
Humidity
Max : 90 Min: 64
Sunset : 17:27 Hours
Sunrise : 07:22 Hours



NC President Farooq Abdullah addressing media persons in Jammu on Wednesday.

plete the exercise positively by March 6 Now, they have told the parliament that there is no time frame set for the completion of the exercise. Maybe, they want it to continue for six years, Abdullah said at a meeting of his party workers here.

He said though the National Conference MPs are part of the delimitation exercise, we were not called for a meeting till date or shown any report and we do not know what they are doing.

Emphasizing that public