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08 HC dismisses petition of Royal Singh challenging his PSA

10 Udhampur Club lifts 34th Volleyball C'ship trophy

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Digital divide reduced, motivational divide a challenge: LG



LG Manoj Sinha speaking at an event in connection with birth anniversary celebrations of Mahamana Pt. Madan Mohan Malaviya at Central University of Gujarat.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

GUJARAT: In the last decade, we were confronted with the challenges of digital divide, but now gradually that gap has been reduced, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said on Friday, adding that the society and the education system will, however, face the challenge of motivational divide in the future.

Sinha underlined the need to inspire students and institutions to promote science, technology and innovation to

bridge the motivational divide.

"The future will belong to those universities only, which will work with inspiration and motivation with students from different disciplines to realize the ideas on the ground", the Lieutenant Governor said while addressing the birth anniversary celebration function of Mahamana Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya on Friday at the Central University of Gujarat.

Paying tributes to Mahamana Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, the Lt Governor said, Mahamana was undoubtedly the greatest educationist, thinker, freedom fighter and proponent of new education model based on ancient wisdom and modern science.

Mahamana always envisioned Education & University campus as a platform for social change and economic growth. As a pioneer in technical education

and Industrial development, Mahamana focused on knowledge-intensive economy to bring about a historic transformation in Indian society, he added.

"I believe University campuses are truly a network of ideas and aspirations for an inclusive society. These networks of ideas are creating human capital for nation building and their potential in achieving sustainable development while providing opportunities to all is limitless", the Lt Governor said.

Due to environmental, technical-scientific advancement and globalization, rapid changes are sweeping socioeconomic landscape. We can reshape the future by creating new knowledge, utilizing digital revolution, multi-dimensional development of students and innovative policy response, observed the Lt Governor. We have become the 5th largest

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

J&K Commission for Protection of Child Rights; CS leads Selection Committee

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The government on Friday constituted Selection Committee for the Jammu and Kashmir Commission for Protection of Child Rights.

"In terms of Rule 4 (1) of the Jammu and Kashmir Commission for Protection of Child Rights Rules, sanction is accorded to the constitution of three-member Selection Committee, for making selection to the post of Chairperson and Members of the Jammu and

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Two JKAS officers transferred

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The government on Friday transferred two JKAS officers.

According to the order issued by Dr Piyush Singla, Secretary, General Administration Department (GAD), Manzoor Ahmad Bhat, JKAS, awaiting orders of adjustment in

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9



Migratory birds bid adieu to setting sun at Wetland Gharana in Jammu on Friday. (pic by Shilpa Thakur)

2 civilians killed in firing outside army camp in Rajouri; FIR registered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI/JAMMU: Two civilians were killed and another was injured in firing outside an army camp in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district on Friday, leading to massive protests and demands for a fair probe.

While the army said in a tweet that some "unidentified terrorists" had started firing at the camp, eyewitnesses claimed a sentry posted at the gate opened fire at approaching locals, resulting in the casualties.

However, a senior army officer later termed the incident "very unfortunate" and assured action against those involved in it.

"FIR has been registered with regard to the early morning incident. We assure a fair probe in a professional manner. Police were the first to reach the scene after the firing and they shifted the injured to a hospital," Deputy Inspector General (DIG) of Police Haseeb Mughal told reporters. Rajouri residents Kamal Kumar and

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Two sisters held with 890 gm heroin in Poonch

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Two school-going sisters were nabbed along with 890 grams of heroin near the Line of Control (LoC) in Poonch district, police said on Friday.

The apprehension of the two girls, residents of Deri Dabsi village of Mendhar, in a joint operation by the J-K Police, BSF and Army thwarted the narcotic smuggling bid from across the border, a police official said.

Acting on a lead, a joint team of police and BSF along with the executive magistrate apprehended a girl at village Jaba and seized 400 grams of drugs from her possession, he said. A case under Narcotic

Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act was registered at Mendhar Police Station and further investigation was taken up, the official said.

During questioning, the girl confessed that she has hidden one more packet in her house and her sister is also in close touch with one of the handlers in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir who supplied drugs to them for further sale, the official said.

"After getting this lead, police with tactical assistance from the Army apprehended her sister and recovered 490 grams of the heroin-like substance from their house in presence of the

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

JKSSB recruitment process back on track amid new measures

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Hit by scandals in the recent past, the recruitment process in Jammu and Kashmir is back on track with the Services Selection Board introducing new measures, including third-party audits and low-frequency jammers to ensure transparency and fairness.

In July, the Jammu and Kashmir administration headed by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha cancelled the exams conducted for the posts of police sub-inspectors, junior engineers and finance account assistants (FAA), following allegations of paper leak and other malpractices.

The CBI, which is investigating the sub-inspector

recruitment scam after registering a case on August 3 on a reference from the J&K administration, has already filed a charge sheet on November 12 against 24 people, including a BSF commandant, arrested for alleged involvement in the scam.

"After a hiatus of several months, we started conducting the written examination after putting in place several new measures to strengthen transparency and accountability for fair selection of candidates," Rajesh Sharma, who took over as the SSB chairman in May, told PTI.

SSB, the government's recruitment agency, had last conducted the written examination to recruit police sub-

inspectors in March which was later cancelled.

Sharma said the board successfully conducted the examination to fill up 148 vacancies in the horticulture department and 217 posts of junior stenographers in two shifts on November 29, which was followed by a written test of junior engineers to fill up 163 posts in the Jal Shakti department on December 5 and 6.

"The fresh examination for recruitment of sub-inspectors (home department) started on December 7 and is scheduled to end on December 20. So far, 32,000 candidates have already appeared in their examinations on given dates and we are hopeful of completing the

process successfully," Sharma said, adding that 1.14 lakh job aspirants have applied for the 1,200 posts of police sub-inspectors.

On December 8, a single bench of the Jammu and Kashmir High Court ordered the cancellation of the processes relating to exams of police sub-inspectors and junior engineers after hearing a petition filed by some candidates over the decision of the SSB to hand over the contract for conducting exams to a "blacklisted agency".

However, a division bench of the court stayed the single bench's judgement the next day, allowing the completion of the examination

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Jamia Masjid Srinagar prohibits photography inside mosque; men, women from sitting together in lawns

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The management of the historic Jamia Masjid here has issued a notification banning photography inside the mosque and asking men and women to not sit together in its lawns.

Entry of photography equipment is also prohibited, the Anjuman Anuqaf Central Jamia Masjid said in the notification put

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

CUET 2023 to be held from May 21 to 31, NEET-UG on May 7: NTA

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The National Testing Agency on Friday said medical entrance examination NEET-UG will be conducted on May 7, 2023.

The second edition of the Common University Entrance Test (CUET) will be conducted from May 21 to 31, 2023, it announced.

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 22.8°C Min: 6.6°C

Humidity
Max: 84 Min: 66

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 11.6°C Min: -3.6°C

Humidity
Max: 96 Min: 64

Sunset : 17:28 Hours
Sunrise : 07:26 Hours

1971 war was triumph of humanity over inhumanity: Rajnath



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh paying homage to fallen heroes at National War Memorial on the occasion of Vijay Diwas in New Delhi.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The 1971 war was the triumph of humanity over inhumanity and justice over injustice, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Friday on the

occasion of Vijay Diwas that marks India's decisive victory over Pakistan which led to the birth of Bangladesh.

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar also saluted the brave Indian Armed Forces

whose valour led to the victory in the war.

"Today, on Vijay Diwas, the Nation salutes the exemplary courage, bravery and sacrifice of India's Armed Forces. The 1971 war was the triumph of humanity over inhumanity, virtue over misconduct and justice over injustice. India is proud of its Armed Forces," Singh tweeted.

Around 93,000 Pakistani troops surrendered before the joint forces of the Indian Army and the "Mukti Bahini" on December 16, 1971, which paved the way for the birth of

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

All services to go online by Jan 15: CS

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta on Friday impressed upon all the offices to make all the services online provided by them by 15th of January next year. He made these remarks while reviewing the performance of IT Department in a meeting here.

The meeting was attended by Commissioner Secretary, IT Department; Scientists from NIC and other officers of the department.

Dr Mehta directed the officers to prepare a list of all the services provided by the departments. He asked them to separate the services still offered in offline mode and prepare a

roadmap for offering them in online mode with end to end digitization by 15th of January next year.

He exhorted upon them to advise the departments to conduct security audit of their respective websites forthwith without any fail. He told them to extend handholding to these departments to comply with the direction. He asked them to frame a list of offices that fail to conduct this audit so that action is initiated against those responsible.

The Chief Secretary also emphasized on the need of synchronizing the services with auto appeal as per the provisions of Public Services Guarantee Act. He

Bilawal is an ISI spokesman: Chugh



■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Taking strong exception to the observations made by Bilawal Bhutto in New York, BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh on Friday said that Bilawal is a failed minister in

Pakistan and it's his frustration that is reflected in his statements.

Chugh said basically Bilawal has been a puppet of ISI and has been speaking ISI language all over the world.

But it is shame that he is passing remarks on prime minister Narendra Modi just to remain in good books of ISI.

Chugh said Modi's contribution to build a new India had been a problem for Pakistan and ISI agents like Bilawal are a proof of it.

It is desperation of Bilawal in the face of great success of Modi which is finding expression in his words, he added.

Four-member DLSCs to address litigation in Govt land encroachment

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The government on Friday constituted four-member District Level Standing Committees (DLSCs) for addressing litigation regarding encroachment of State/Departmental land.

"Sanction is accorded to constitution of the District Level Standing Committee for each district for dealing with court matters involving encroachment of State/Departmental land," reads an order issued by, Dr Piyush Singla, Secretary, General Administration Department.

As per order, the committee will be headed by

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Former ADGP, VC BGSBU Masud Choudhary passes away

Azad, Farooq, Omar express grief

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Former additional director general of Jammu and Kashmir Police and founding vice chancellor of Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah (BGSB) University Masud Choudhary died after a prolonged illness at his residence here on Friday. He was 78.

Choudhary, who was also the chief patron of the



Gurjar Desh Charitable Trust, breathed his last at his Gandhi Nagar residence in the morning. He is survived by a son and two daughters.

Choudhary was a prominent educator, social reformer, thinker and

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

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Sd/
Dy. General Manager
(Govt. Business)

DIP/J-4358-P/22

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