

BLUE MOON
Banquets • Conventions

THE BANQUET WITH A DIFFERENCE

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03

JMC passes resolution, recommends 'Bharat Ratna' for Pt Prem Nath Dogra

09

Two drug-peddlers nabbed; approximately 85 Kg poppy straw recovered

10

J&K beats Maharashtra, Chandigarh in National Volleyball

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‘Badalta Jammu Kashmir’ Conference in Mumbai Stringent steps being taken against terror ecosystem, corruption: LG



LG Manoj Sinha speaking at 'Badalta Jammu Kashmir' Conference in Mumbai on Saturday.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
MUMBAI: Saying that Article 370 was the root cause of secessionism, terrorism, nepotism, discrimination and corruption that kept Jammu and Kashmir underdeveloped, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Saturday said three years after break from past, it is moving forward towards a new developmental journey. "Decisive and stringent steps are being taken against

terror ecosystem and corruption", the Lieutenant Governor said while addressing 'Badalta Jammu Kashmir' Conference in Mumbai. He also shared J&K's remarkably robust and resilient growth story. The world is changing. India as the world's largest democracy has emerged as a global economic power and the achievements are inspiring J&K UT to make the

country stronger and contribute in building modern India, the Lt Governor said. The conference was attended by various distinguished guests and prominent personalities including Ram Naik, former Governor, Uttar Pradesh; Vinod Tawde, Former Minister of Maharashtra Government; Members of Parliament; Ministers, Legislators, former Ministers and senior politicians.

Referring to the transformational journey of the UT, the Lt Governor said, J&K has emerged as one of the fastest-growing UTs. The progress that UT has made in last three years has given new hope and confidence to the people. Never before had PMEGP, Infrastructure development, and projects completion taken place at the kind of speed witnessed in the past three years, he added. Accelerated pace of development, improved socio-economic parameters, unprecedented progress in all priority sectors, massive tourist influx, and industrial investment is testimony of peaceful and prosperous Jammu Kashmir, the Lt Governor said. The Lt Governor also highlighted the reforms introduced by the government

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SIA seals properties worth crores belonging to JeI in Kashmir

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir State Investigation Agency (SIA) on Saturday sealed several properties worth crores of rupees of the banned Jamat-e-Islami (JeI) across the Union Territory, officials said.

The properties at about a dozen locations worth about Rs 100 crore were barred with restrictions on usage and entry in Baramulla, Bandipora, Ganderbal and Kupwara districts, they said. The properties were barred after being notified by District Magistrates of Baramulla, Bandipora, Ganderbal and Kupwara on the recommendation of the SIA, the officials said. The move is aimed at choking the availability of funds for secessionist activities and to dismantle the ecosystem of anti-national elements and terror networks hostile to India's sovereignty, they said.

Property of LeT ‘commander’ attached in Doda



Admn officials and police sealing property of LeT commander.

BHADARWAH: Jammu and Kashmir authorities on Saturday attached the property of absconding Lashkar-e-Taiba commander Abdul Rashid alias "Jehangir" who is operating from across the Line of Control and making attempts to revive terrorism, a senior police officer said. The land measuring over four kanals at Khanpura village in Doda district's Thathiri was attached by a joint team

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These premises/structures were barred and entry and usage was prohibited, besides "Red Entry" to this effect has been made in the relevant revenue records, the officials said.

During the seizure proceedings, it was found that about two dozen business establishments in the towns of Kupwara and Kangan (in Ganderbal) were currently running from out of these

JeI properties on a rent basis, they said. After due diligence, it was decided that these would be allowed to continue so that private persons who may not have any connections with JeI and are only tenants paying rent to JeI are not penalised and their livelihood not impaired, the officials said. They said these properties are the third set of properties to be notified in a series of properties belonging to the JeI. "The action would uproot the menace of terror funding to a great extent in UT of J-K besides being a stepping stone in ensuring rule of law and a society without fear," they said. The SIA has identified as many as 188 JeI properties across the UT which have either been notified or are under the process of being notified for further

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Situation along LoC saw improvement after Indo-Pak ceasefire in Feb 2021: Defence Ministry

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
NEW DELHI: Only three minor incidents of "violations" were recorded along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir after Indian and Pakistani armies agreed to observe a ceasefire in February last year, the defence ministry said on Saturday. At the same time, it said Pakistan continued to retain the "proxy war infrastructure" and "functionality" of terrorist training camps as well as the presence of terrorists in terror "launch pads" vindicated that country's "persistent intent" towards India. In a year-end review, the ministry, referring to the sit-

uation in Jammu and Kashmir, also said Pakistan continues to exploit the "narco-terror nexus" to radicalise and motivate innocent youth undertake targeting of vulnerable civilians. Referring to the Line of Control (LoC), the ministry said the situation has been relatively peaceful with both sides adhering to the ceasefire understanding reached between the director generals of military operations. "As compared to 4,645 ceasefire violations during its peak in 2020, only three minor incidents have been recorded since the Understanding in February 2021 with only one

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States to share responsibility for security in border areas: Amit Shah

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
KOLKATA: Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday at a meeting of Eastern Zone Council indicated to chief ministers that the states too share a responsibility along with the BSF for security in India's border areas. Illegal infiltration, trans-border smuggling and the vulnerable India-Bangladesh boundary were among subjects discussed at the 25th Eastern Zonal Council (EZC) meeting, chaired by Shah, at the West Bengal secretariat near here, a senior official said. Talks on transportation facilities and water-sharing



Home Minister Amit Shah presiding over 25th Eastern Zonal Council meeting in Kolkata on Saturday.

among the states were also held at the 25th EZC meeting, which was attended by Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, her counterpart from Jharkhand Hemant

Soren, Bihar deputy CM Tejashwi Yadav and Odisha minister Pradeep Amat, the official said. The role of BSF was discussed, in the light of the

increase in the operational area of the border force earlier this year. In response, according to sources, the home minister is believed to have indicated that the state governments too have a role to play in border security, according to sources. The meeting also discussed resurgence of Maoist activities in Jharkhand-Odisha and Bengal. It was decided that states and centre will pool real time information on Maoist activities in the red zone in order to coordinate steps to neutralize the movement, officials said. West Bengal chief minister

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Four DySPs repatriated, five deputed to SSF J&K

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
JAMMU: The government on Saturday repatriated four Deputy Superintendents of Police (DySPs) from Special Security Force (SSF), J&K and deputed five DySPs to SSF. "In terms of Rule 4 of the Lieutenant Governor of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir's Special Security Force Rules, 2020, sanction is accorded to repatriation of the four Deputy Superintendents of Police from Special Security Force (SSF)," read an order issued by Raj Kumar Goyal, Financial Commissioner/Additional Chief Secretary, Home Department. They DySPs who have

repatriated from SSF include Zohaib Hassan, Aakash Kohli, Nikhil Gogna and Sunil Kumar Kesar. Further, five DySPs have been deputed to Special Security Force, J&K, on standard terms and conditions as contained in Schedule XVIII of the Jammu & Kashmir Civil Service Regulations, 1956. They include Amit Kumar Sharma, DySPs P/TS Kathua, Ashok Singh, DySP Crime Branch Jammu, Aishaq Hussain Malik, DySP, awaiting posting in PHQ, Gh Mustafa Bhat, DySP, CID SB Pulwama/Shopian and Dharinder Chand, DySP (Telecom), Security, Jammu.

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Rajouri firing victims cremated

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
RAJOURI/JAMMU: Two persons, who died of firing outside an army camp, were cremated in the Rajouri district of Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday, officials said. Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha described the incident as "very unfortunate" and announced an ex-gratia relief of Rs 5 lakh to the families of the deceased. Kamal Kumar and Surinder Kumar, both residents of Pahlyana, were killed and another person, Anil Kumar of Uttarakhand was injured in a firing incident outside the Army camp near its Alpha gate in Rajouri town on Friday morning. While the Army in a tweet said some "unidentified" terrorists had started firing at the camp, eyewitnesses claimed that a sentry posted at the gate opened fire, resulting in casualties. District Development

Indian Army displayed unmatched bravery in Galwan, Tawang: Rajnath

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
NEW DELHI: The Indian Army displayed "unmatched bravery" and valour during the Galwan valley clashes and the recent face-off in the Tawang sector of Arunachal Pradesh and any amount of praise for them is not enough, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Saturday. In an address at the industry chamber FICCI, Singh also said that India aspires to become a superpower to ensure global prosperity and it has no intention to capture even one inch of the land of any country but will respond if anyone tries to cast an evil



eye over it, in comments seen as a thinly veiled message to China. The defence minister also made an indirect dig at Rahul Gandhi over his comments on the border row with China, a day after the Congress leader accused the

government of downplaying the threat posed by the Chinese military along the Line of Actual Control. "Any amount of praise is not enough for the armed forces the way they displayed unmatched bravery and valour, be it in Galwan or

Tawang," Singh said. "We have never questioned the intention of any leader in the opposition, we have only debated on the basis of policies. Politics should be based on truth. Politics cannot be done on the basis of falsehood for a long time," he said without naming anyone. "The process of taking the society towards the right path is called 'rajniti' (politics). I do not understand the reason behind doubting anyone's intention always," Singh said. Citing stiff opposition faced by the government in rolling out the Goods and

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Azad-led DAP announces office bearers; 3 ex-ministers appointed as Vice-Chairmen

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
JAMMU: Nearly three months after launching his party, Democratic Azad Party (DAP) chairman Ghulam Nabi Azad on Saturday appointed three former ministers -- Tara Chand, Peerzada Mohd Sayeed and G M Saroori -- as vice-chairmen of the party. Salman Nizami was given the responsibility of the chief spokesperson of the DAP. Azad also named Jugal Kishore Sharma and Mohammad Amin Bhat as the provincial presidents for Jammu and Kashmir regions, respectively. The party also announced

the names of 10 new general secretaries, 12 secretaries, six spokespersons and media coordinators-cum-additional spokespersons and four social media coordinators. Azad, 73, who quit the Congress on August 26, launched the DAP in Jammu on September 26 with the support of dozens of former ministers, ex-legislators and other prominent leaders, majority of whom also resigned from the Congress in his support. On October 1, Azad was unanimously elected as the chairman of the DAP following a resolution passed at a founder members' session,

which was held both in Jammu and Srinagar. Two days later, former ministers -- Taj Mohi-ud-din and R S Chib -- were appointed as treasurer and general secretary, respectively, for smooth functioning of the party. Announcing the office bearers of DAP state committee J-K, Azad appointed former deputy chief minister Tara Chand and Peerzada Mohd Sayeed and G.M Saroori as party's vice chairmen. M K Bhardwaj, Aslam Goni, Manzoor Ganai, Muzaffar Parrey, Abdul Gani Ahangar and Salman

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BJP holds protests against Bhutto's remarks in Srinagar

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
SRINAGAR: BJP's Jammu and Kashmir unit staged a protest here on Saturday against Pakistan Foreign minister Bilawal Bhutto over his personal remarks on Prime Minister Narendra Modi. BJP workers raised slogans against Bhutto and demanded an apology from him. The protest was taken out from the party's office in Jawahar Nagar area here. "This march is part of the country-wide protests by BJP against Bhutto's shameless comments against our beloved prime minister. This protest is against Pakistan which is a

terror state," party's Kashmir media incharge, Manzoor Ahmad, told reporters. The party said the protests will continue till Bhutto tenders an apology. "This is a protest against the Pakistan government. We appeal it to hang Bhutto and until he apologises to the people of India, protests will continue," party activist Mohammad Yusuf Dar said. Bhutto made the comments following India's External Affairs minister S Jaishankar's sharp attack on Pakistan over its support to terrorism at the United Nations Security Council meeting.

GST Council agrees to decriminalise certain offences, doubles limit for launching prosecution to Rs 2 Cr

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
NEW DELHI: The GST Council on Saturday agreed to decriminalise certain offences and doubled the threshold for launching prosecution to Rs 2 crore, Revenue Secretary Sanjay Malhotra said. The Council could decide on only 8 out of the 15 agenda items due to paucity of time, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said, adding the items not considered included one pertaining to setting up of appellate tribunals for GST. The issue of mechanism to curb tax evasion in pan masala and gutkha businesses also could not be



Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman chairing 48th meeting of GST Council via virtual mode in New Delhi.

taken up. No new taxes have been brought, Sitharaman said on the deliberations at the GST Council's 48th meeting. The Council, she said, has clarified on what constitutes an SUV and attract the tax

applicable for such categories of automobiles. Malhotra said GST on online gaming and casinos was not discussed as the report of a Group of Ministers (GoM), chaired by Meghalaya Chief

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Trust us to be guardians of liberties of our citizens: CJI Chandrachud

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
MUMBAI: Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud on Saturday said the confidence of citizens in the due process of law and the protection of liberty rests in the judiciary which is "guardians of liberties". Delivering a lecture here, the CJI emphasized through the lives of the members of the bar, who fearlessly espouse those causes, "the flame of liberty burns bright even today". Delivering the Ashok H Desai memorial lecture at the Y B Chavan Center here, he referred to a theft case where a man would have spent 18 years in jail had the SC not intervened to say

"trust us to be guardians of the liberties of our citizens". The event was organised by the Bombay Bar Association. "Yesterday in a seemingly innocuous case, where an accused was sentenced to two years of imprisonment in sessions trial for theft of electricity, the trial judge forgot to say that the sentences will run concurrently. "So then the consequence was that this person who had stolen electricity equipment like poles would have to suffer 18 years of imprisonment, only because the trial court didn't direct that the sentences would run concurrently," CJI

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WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 21.9°C Min: 7.2°C

Humidity
Max: 84 Min: 71

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 12.5°C Min: -2.4°C

Humidity
Max: 94 Min: 69

Sunset : 17:27 Hours
Sunrise : 07:27 Hours