

## 02 Accused fled from police custody; raids on, cop attached

# India revamps defence infra with army tank ramps, fortification of BSF bunkers at IB in J&K

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Indian security agencies have carried out a major defence infrastructure revamp including creation of ramps for army tanks and strengthening of BSF bunkers along the International Border with Pakistan, since the two sides announced a military ceasefire in 2021, officials said.

The first phase of the infrastructure renovation and creation of some new ones has been recently completed on a stretch of 26 kilometres along the front in Jammu while another 33 kilometres in the same region is being carried out, official sources told PTL.

Jammu shares a 192 km-long front of the total 2,289 kilometres of the India - Pakistan IB before it runs down towards Gujarat and Rajasthan on the country's western flank.

The Line of Control (LoC) between the two neighbours



falls majorly in Kashmir and it is about 772 kilometres long.

The defence infrastructure work that has been undertaken includes creation and revamp of multiple DCBs (ditch-cum-bandhs), maintenance of damaged border fence, creation of ramps for movement of army tanks to the forward areas, upgrade of Border Security Force

## 03 Stress, cardiovascular diseases in defence forces interlinked and on rise: Dr Sushil

### Terrorist OGW arrested in Poonch

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: An over-ground worker (OGW) of terrorists was arrested in Poonch district on Sunday, police said.

A pistol and some ammunition were seized from his possession, they said.

Tayab Khan, son of Mohd Khalil Khan, a resident of Salwa, was arrested in a joint search and cordon operation by the police and the Army in the Mendhar area, a police official said.

Pakistan renewed their ceasefire agreement along the front in Jammu and Kashmir on February 20, 2021.

"The other side too is undertaking similar works and both sides keep each other informed in case a major work is undertaken near the fence," a senior BSF officer said.

Barring a few violations, like when Pakistan breached the agreement and opened unprovoked fire in Jammu on September 6, Last year's ceasefire agreement is holding well, officials said.

The ceasefire breach took place when the Indian side was undertaking some "maintenance work" in the Arnia sector of Jammu. A flag meeting was later held between the BSF and Pak Rangers and it was decided to uphold the ceasefire.

The silence of the guns is allowing peace to

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## 10 11th Police Martyr's Memorial T-20: Sports Club Jalandhar, Krishnam XI Amritsar register wins

# COVID cases rising in many countries, be vigilant: Modi

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday asked people to be vigilant and take precautions against COVID-19, as he noted that the virus is spreading in many countries.

In his last 'Mann ki Baat' broadcast of the year, Modi said many people are on a vacation or will go on one during Christmas and New Year and urged them to follow protocols like wearing masks and washing hands to ensure that their enjoyment is not affected adversely by the virus.

The central government has stepped up measures against the virus, with the cases on a rise, especially in China where the lifting of zero-Covid policy has caused a spread of the pandemic.

Modi has also chaired meetings and his government has

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

written to the states to put in place adequate measures to deal with any spurt.

The prime minister said the outgoing year, 2022, has been inspirational to India in

many ways.

India carved out a special place for itself in the world with its incredible vaccination doses of over 220 crore and the country becoming the fifth largest global economy, he said.

Talking about the 100th episode of 'Mann Ki Baat', PM said, "My dear countrymen, now we are slowly moving towards the unprecedented milestone of the 100th episode of 'Mann Ki

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The country also achieved the "magical" export figure of USD 400 billion (one billion=100 crore) and made new strides in space, defence and drone sectors, he added and also highlighted its achievements in sports.

Prime Minister extended greetings to citizens on the occasion of New Year saying that the next edition of the 'Mann Ki Baat' will be broadcast in 2023. He said, "We will now meet in 2023. I extend my greetings on the occasion of New Year celebrations. Next year will also be special for India and we have to take the country to new heights."

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## Vajpayee's patriotism, dedication inspire everyone to serve India: Amit Shah

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on



Sunday paid tributes to former prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee on his 98th birth anniversary and said his patriotism, dutifulness and dedication will always inspire everyone to serve the nation. Vajpayee led the BJP to power at the Centre in the late 1990s and early 2000s and remained India's prime

minister for six years.

Shah visited the 'Sadaiv Atal', Vajpayee's memorial here, and offered his floral tributes.

"Atal ji's patriotism, dutifulness and dedication will always inspire us to serve the nation," he said.

The home minister said the life of Vajpayee, the pinnacle of Indian politics, was dedicated to taking the country back to its ultimate glory.

"By laying the foundation of a new era of development and good governance under his leadership, Atal Bihari Vajpayee made the world aware of India's

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## Mahamana, Atal Ji dedicated their lives in service of nation: LG

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

GHAZIPUR UP: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha addressed the birth anniversary celebration of Mahamana Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya and Atal Bihari Vajpayee on Sunday at Mahamana Inter College, Ghazipur.

Paying tributes to Mahamana Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya and former Prime Minister, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, the Lt Governor said, vision and values of the two great personalities continue to guide us on the path of peace and progress.

Mahamana and Atal Ji dedicated their lives in the service of the nation. Mahamana made an unparalleled contribution to build strong national character in youth, women empowerment and Atal Ji laid the foundation for the modernization of India & the progress of



LG Manoj Sinha addressing during birth anniversary celebrations of Mahamana Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya & Atal Bihari Vajpayee at Mahamana Inter College, Ghazipur.

its people, said the Lt Governor.

Remembering their significant contribution to the nation building, the Lt Governor said, Mahamana and Atal Ji were instrumental in making develop-

ment a powerful people's movement.

They created a new future for the country. It is our resolve to march together and realize their dream of making India a developed

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## The Beats of J&K: DIPR releases song of singer Deepali Wattal

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Department of Information and Public Relations (DIPR) released another beautiful song performed by Dr. Deepali Wattal, a versatile singer in its contemporary popular programme The Beats of J&K.

Deepali Wattal is a multi-lingual singer who is known for amazing songs in Kashmiri, Dogri, Punjabi, Sindhi, Gojri, etc..

Her performance in Beats of J&K is available on Social media channels of DIPR with tagline "The Beats of J&K" Season 01. The song is available on the following links: <https://fb.watch/h1DYtSIJbYe>

/?mibextid=RUBZ1f, <https://youtu.be/K1AG348cWMS>, <https://www.instagram.com/reel/CmlxIcXDY8>



/?igshid=MDJmNzVkMjY=.

The Beats of J&K is a music show launched as a maiden initiative of Department of Information

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## Cold conditions intensify across Kashmir Valley

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Cold conditions intensified in Kashmir as the minimum temperature dipped several degrees below the freezing point and many places experienced the season's coldest night, officials said Sunday.

The valley experienced a dry but colder Christmas this year, the MeT office said. However, there is a possibility of a wet spell next week.

The minimum temperature on Saturday night went several degrees below the freezing point and was below normal across the valley except in Gulmarg, the officials said.

The intense cold conditions led to freezing of water supply lines in many areas as well as the freezing of the interiors of the Dal Lake, they said.

The minimum temperature in Srinagar settled at minus 5.8 degrees Celsius -- down from minus 5.4

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## Mata Vaishno Devi shrine ready to meet New Year rush of pilgrims

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Various measures are in place at famous Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine atop Trikuta Hills in Reasi district to tackle heavy rush of pilgrims and avoid any untoward incident, an official said on Sunday.

Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB) has also issued guidelines for strict adherence to the COVID-19 guidelines as a precautionary measure, the official said.

In a first-ever stampede at the shrine on January 1 this year, 12 pilgrims lost their lives and 16 were injured, prompting the shrine board



to introduce Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) as part of various projects sanctioned for the convenience of the pilgrims, better crowd management and tracking of the yatis along the 13-km track and the 'Bhawan' (sanctum san-

torum). "The shrine is ready to meet heavy rush of devotees around New Year. A strategy has been chalked out to ensure smooth regulation of expected influx of pilgrims, decongestion of entire

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## Won't allow Abdullah's, Mufti's & Gandhi's to bring Kashmir back to 90's: Chugh

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: BJP National General Secretary and In-Charge Kashmir Affairs, Tarun Chugh on Sunday said New Delhi is taking every possible measure to bring peace, prosperity and development in the UT and added the BJP would not allow Abdullah's, Mufti's and Gandhi's to bring Kashmir back to 90's.

Chugh the top functionary of BJP while addressing a press conference here in Srinagar said New Delhi has brought a terror-free atmosphere in J&K however three families who ruined the life of common people in their



BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh addressing press conference at Srinagar on Sunday.

regimes are trying to fuel uncertainties for their political gains.

"Abdullah's, Mufti's and Gandhi's want to bring Kashmir back to 90's but I

want to clear it that BJP would not allow these three dynastic political parties to bring violence back in Kashmir", Chugh as per media said.

Hitting hard to NC, PDP and Congress, the BJP leader said these three dynastic political parties had made J&K "an industry of loot" and put impediments in the process of development and peace. "For last seven decades they plundered every resource of J&K. Besides they placed AK47, stones and grenades in the hands of youngsters instead of pen, book and laptop.

They had made JK famous for terrorism capital but BJP stepped up and nailed their interests", Chugh asserted. "BJP made J&K tourist capital from

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## DAP is an alternative force to ensure peace, development in J&K: Azad

'Jobs need to be created, infrastructure required to be built at par with the modern standards'



Chairman DAP Ghulam Nabi Azad addressing workers at Srinagar party headquarters.

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Former Chief Minister & Chairman Democratic Azad Party Ghulam Nabi Azad on Sunday said that he will

ensure that every person living in Jammu and Kashmir will feel safe if his party is elected to power after elections.

Azad showed concerns over

the growing insecurity among the locals of Kashmir in general and minority Kashmiri Pandits in particular given the recent target killings by terrorists in the

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last several years which forced minority people to flee.

"We need an era of development in Jammu and Kashmir that provides equal economic opportunities to all. Jobs need to be created, infrastructure required to be built at par with the modern standards. That is how an all-round development takes place," he told hundreds of workers at party headquarters.

Azad said that dwelling economic opportunities in Jammu Kashmir have pushed people to the wall. It allows terrorism to

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## Huge desperation on Pakistani side to infiltrate terrorists, smuggle war-like stores into Kashmir: Army

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: There is huge desperation on the Pakistani side to either infiltrate terrorists or smuggle war-like stores into Kashmir as the number of ultras and arms and ammunition was at an all-time low in the Valley, a senior Army official said on Friday.

He said such manoeuvres were seen when the situation was near normal in Kashmir.

General Officer Commanding (GOC) of Army's 19 Infantry Division Major General Ajay Chandpuria made these remarks while addressing reporters in Baramulla after security forces recovered a



GOC, Army's 19 Infantry Division Major General Ajay Chandpuria briefing media on Sunday.

huge cache of arms and ammunition near the Line of Control (LoC) in the Halanga area of Uri in the north Kashmir district.

"The situation is near normal in Kashmir valley as the

number of terrorists and the availability of war-like stores is at an all-time low. So, there is a huge desperation from the other side to either infiltrate terrorists or

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**WEATHER**

**Temperature (Jammu)**  
Max: 13.4°C Min: 4.1°C

**Humidity**  
Max: 94 Min: 87

**Temperature (Srinagar)**  
Max: 7.6°C Min: -5.8°C

**Humidity**  
Max: 92 Min: 61

Sunset: 17:31 Hours  
Sunrise: 07:32 Hours