24-A, Shastri Nagar (at Dr.Bharat Bhushan Gunta's Clinic). Ja Air surcharge 50 paisa for Leh JKPS Kunjwani fetches laurels to J&K in 60th

National Roller Skating Championship 2022

Sukhnandan calls LG Sinha, discusses **J** Junior Statistical Assistants' issues

Regd. No. L-29/JK-346/22-24

Court sentences Hizbul commander to 15 years in prison

Website: www.statetimes.in, Email: statetimes1@gmail.com

Major success ahead of Republic Day

4 heavily-armed terrorists travelling to Kashmir killed in Jammu



Truck carrying terrorists on fire at the encounter site in Jammu on Wednesday

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Four heavilyarmed terrorists, travelling in a truck to Kashmir after infiltrating from Pakistan. were killed in an encounter with security forces on Wednesday, a police officer said, terming it a "major success" ahead of Republic Day.

The truck driver, however,

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A fire broke out in

the main building of the Civil

Secretariat on Wednesday,

but was immediately brought

The fire was reported from

the retiring room of the Vice

Chairperson of the Khadi

Lt Governor extends greetings on Sri Guru

Gobind Singh Ji's Jayanti

STATE TIMES NEWS

Governor, Manoi Sinha has

greeted the people on the eve

of auspicious occasion of Sri

Guru Gobind Singh Ji's

In his message, the Lt

Governor said that Sri Guru

Gobind Singh Ji's message

of equality, righteousness, selfless service, universalism.

inner purity, brotherhood

and compassion for all, con-

tinues to guide humanity

"The revered Guru Gobind

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Singh Ji showed us the

Javanti.

even today.

Lieutenant

under control.

Fire breaks out in Civil

Flames coming out of Civil Secretariat's main building

escaped from the scene and efforts are on to nab him, Additional Director General of Police (ADGP), Jammu zone, Mukesh Singh said.

He said the gunfight took place around 7.30 am amid dense fog near Tawi Bridge in the Sidhra bypass area along the Jammu-Srinagar

have been recovered from the truck. Seven AK assault rifles, one M4 rifle, three pistols and a large quantity of ammunition were also seized their possession, Singh, flanked by General Officer Commanding of Army's Tiger Division,

"Bodies of four terrorists

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Truck carrying terrorists to Kashmir had fake number plate: ADGP

JAMMU: The truck which was carrying the four heavily armed terrorists, who were killed by security Wednesday morning, had a fake registration plate and tampered engine and chassis Additional General

Mukesh Singh said. "The number plate of the truck has been found to be fake. The engine and chassis number has also

Police, Jammu Zone,

been tampered and help of forensic teams will be sought in this regard," the Jammu police chief said. "Efforts are on to nab him and also identify the truck owner," the ADGP said. He said a search is being conducted at bus stands, railway stations and marketplaces, while all checkpoints have also been alerted. "Other scientific and electronic evidence is being collected to identify the terror group behind the transportation of the terrorists and to identify the Over Ground Workers (OGW) support structure of the terrorists (in Jammu region)," he said. An FIR has also been registered in connection with the encounter, the officer said

Ecosystem that aids, abets terrorism in J&K has to be dismantled: Amit Shah

NEW DELHI: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Wednesday said the ecosystem in Jammu and Kashmir that aids, abets and sustains the terrorist-separatist campaign to the detriment of the well-being of common people requires to be dismantled.

At a meeting here, Shah reviewed the functioning of the security grid and various aspects related to security in Jammu and Kashmir and gave directions to officials to follow the policy of zero tolerance against terrorism.

"A terror ecosystem comprising elements that aid. abet and sustain the terrorist-separatist campaign to the detriment of the wellbeing of common people requires to be dismantled." Shah was quoted as saying in an official statement.

At the meeting, Shah also reviewed various developmental works being implemented in Jammu and



at New Delhi on Wednesday. LG Manoj Sinha also seen.

Kashmir and emphasised on timely completion of proj-

He also directed officials to strive to achieve 100 percent saturation of beneficiaries under various schemes and ensure the benefits of development reach every section of society. Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir Manoj Sinha, senior officials of the home ministry, intelligence agencies, paramilitary forces and officers from Jammu and Kashmir attended the meet-

The pre-scheduled meeting was held on a day four heavily-armed terrorists, who came from Pakistan, were killed in a "chance encounter' in Jammu. Early this month, there were reports that people from the Kashmiri Pandit community working in the valley were in a state of panic after a terrorist group released a "hit list" of 56

Dr. Shikha Dhawan M.S.(Obs. & Gynae.), D.N.B.(Obs. & Gyna Consultant Obstetrician & Gynaecologis

employees from among them. A blog linked to The Resistance Front (TRF),

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

JMC parking slots allotment scam: Jammu Mayor constitutes Secretariat's main building 7-member inquiry panel; to submit report in 2 weeks

Inquiry report of 5 Corporators, retired Chief Engg PWD, CAO to be submitted to Crime Branch or ACB to book erring JMC officers

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu Mayor Rajinder Sharma Wednesday constituted an expert committee to investigate major losses to Jammu Corporation Municipal (JMC) in the allotment of parking slots in Jammu City. STATE TIMES had exclusively reported parking slots scam in its edition dated Dec 24, 2022 under caption "Parking Slots Allotment Scam in Jammu; Over Rs 99 lakh loss to JMC in last 11 months" Besides JMC Corporators,

led from the front to fight the panel consisting of retired Chief Engineer PWD

Services



Jammu Mayor Rajinder Sharma addressing the media in Jammu on Wednesday.

retired CAO Yash Sharma to submit report in two Senior JMC

Dinesh Rampal and officers likely t

While briefing the media, Jammu Mayor Rajinder Sharma said that Jammu Municipal Corporation

identified 33 parking slots and allotted to Baba Infratech Corporation, Out

of these 33 parking slots, the operational parking slots are at near K.C Theater, opposite City Square, opposite Swaran Theater Gandhi Nagar, Maharaja Hari Singh Park and D.C Office Chowk Jammu. One parking slot is partially operational at Parade near Brahaman Sabha. The revenue generated by Baba Infratech Corporation with effect from March 01, 2022November 26, 2022 was Rs 25.60 laklhs and the share of Jammu Municipal Corporation @ of 4 per cent for this period was

Spotlight again on demand to install vehicle scanners on highways

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: With yet another incident of terrorists trying to sneak into Kashmir by hiding in a truck, security experts have batted strongly for the installation of vehicle scanners along the highways.

It is a "major challenge" for security forces which have foiled over a dozen such bids on national highways in Jammu and Kashmir by eliminating several terrorists and recovering large quantities of weapons and explosive material during the past few

"There is a long pending demand of security forces to install full body vehicle scanners along the highway,"

army officer Brig Anil Gupta told PTI. He said that in the absence

of such scanners, one cannot check each and every truck. Brig Gupta, who served at the Nagrota-based 16 Corps headquarters, said the "loophole is being exploited" by

terrorists and their support-

"I think the only solution to this is to have full body scanners installed at various locations along highways with checking made mandatory

for vehicles," he said. Former Director General Of Police S P Vaid pointed out that a whole network is involved in such activities

and poses a major

PIL regarding poor investigation and prosecution of NDPS cases

CB files charge-sheet in DGP Lohia Murder case

STATE TIMES NEWS JAMMU

Village

Board, Dr Hina Bhat.

General.

Emergency

Setting an example of gal-

Fire

lant leadership, Director

Department of J&K, himself

Special Investigation Team of Crime Branch Jammu on Wednesday produced charge-sheet in Ex-DGP Prison J&K H K Lohia murder case in the court of

A Crime Branch Jammu spokesperson said that Special Investigation Team (SIT) of Special Crime Wing, Crime Branch Jammu today produced charge-sheet in Ex-DGP Prison J&K H K Lohia murder case, FIR (345/2022) of Police Station Domana, in the court of law against the accused Yassir Ahmed, son of Mohd. Yousaf, resident of Halla Dandrath Ramban.

"FIR was registered on October 3, 2022 in Police station Domana and investigation started. On October 12,



2022, the investigation of the case was transferred to the Crime Branch by Police Hqrs and a Special Investigation Team (SIT) was constituted Crime Headquarters, J&K for further investigation of the case", he said.

The spokesman said that

during investigation, all cogent evidence(s) Documentary, Circumstantial. Expert & Technical) were collected by the SIT. Besides, Narco Analysis test of accused was also conducted at DFSL

Gandhi Nagar Gujarat.

"On the basis of evidence, offences under section 302, 201 IPC 4/25 Arms Act stand established against the accused namely Yassir Ahmed, son of Mohd Yousaf, resident of Halla Dandrath Ramban who has committed murder of the then DGP Prisons J&K H.K Lohia. The charge sheet stands thus produced in the Court of Law for judicial

Thwart designs of forces 'inimical' to J&K's unique identity: Faroog **STÂTE TIMES NEWS**

SRINAGAR: Conference president Farooq Abdullah on Wednesday asked people to thwart attempts of forces "inimical" to the unique political identity of Jammu and Kashmir.

He was addressing a condolence meeting at the city's Naushaher area.

He exuded confidence that the people will foil all such attempts by keeping the flame of unity and brotherhood alive.

Abdullah cautioned people about forces "inimical" to the unique political identity of Jammu and Kashmir, and asked them to thwart

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taken for overhauling of FSLs **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: In a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) regarding poor investigation and prosecution of NDPS cases, a Division Bench of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court comprising Chief Justice (Acting) Tashi Rabstan and Justice Rajesh Sekri directed to file a detailed Action Taken Report(ATR)/status report positively by next date of hearing indicating steps taken with respect to qualitative and quantitative overhauling of the Forensic Science Laboratories (FSL) in Union Territories of J&K

and Ladakh as also comprehensive steps required to be

DB directs to file ATR indicating steps

taken for de-addiction. DB further observed that since most of the NDPS cases fail in the Courts due to ineffective investigation and prosecution, directed respondent-authorities to conduct regular crash courses for the investigating officers and

prosecuting officers. This significant order passed when the PIL cameup for hearing, DB observed that Status report in this PIL has been filed on February 11, 2022. However, vide order dated March 4. 2022, this Court expressed serious concern regarding poor investigation and prosecution of NDPS cases in Union Territories of J&K and Ladakh as Inspector General of Police (Crime) after collecting data from all the districts concerning NDPS cases had reported that conviction rate which was 8.64 per cent in the year 2008 had gone down to 6.2 per cent in the year 2009.

The concerned authorities were directed to follow the directions handed down by Supreme Court in Thana Singh v. Central Bureau of Narcotics, (2013)

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

2022 saw completion of delimitation process, revision of electoral rolls in J&K

determination", he said.

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Political parties in Jammu and Kashmir, except the BJP, are disappointed as another year has passed by without the Centre living up to its promise of restoring statehood and holding assembly elections in the voungest union territory of the country.

As the delimitation process and revision of the electoral rolls were completed in Jammu and Kashmir, the political parties were hopeful Election Commission will take the next logical step of announcing the poll schedule to the assembly of the union territo-

However, this did not happen with 2022 coming to an

The biggest news of the emanating from vear Kashmir, however, was the targeted killings of Kashmiri Pandits in the valley by terrorists, which led to hue and cry across the country.

large number of Kashmiri Pandits, who had returned to the valley under the PM's Employment Package announced in 2007, fled to Jammu following killing of Rahul Bhat by terrorists inside his office in Chadoora area of Budgam district in May.

The employees, supported by various KP organisations, have been on a relay sit-in at Jammu, demanding that they be transferred to Jammu till the situation improves in the valley.

This demand has found resonance with the major political parties and their leaders including Farooq Abdullah, Mehbooba Mufti Ghulam Nabi Azad - three former chief ministers of the erstwhile state of Jammu

and Kashmir. However, the LG administration has been adamant that the employees have to return to work in Kashmir and stopped the salaries of those abstaining from duties. Several non-Kashmiri

labourers - coming from var-

ious parts of the country to earn a livelihood here - were also targeted during the year.

On the political front, National Conference - the oldest political party in Jammu and Kashmir - said the political emancipation in Jammu and Kashmir was at its lowest as the union territory was being administered by those not elected by the people.

"Many things have been promised to the people of J&K like the restoration of democratic institutions. Unfortunately, that did not happen. We were told as soon as delimitation process would get concluded, the election commission of India would

announce assembly elections but they didn't take place as

"If we look from the prism of political emancipation and power of democracy, we are at the lowest in the past few Imran Nabi told PTI.

He said the security situation in Jammu and Kashmir was evident as targeted killings in the valley have risen in the past few months despite heavy security that has fuelled a wave of fear among minorities and nonlocals.

"Number of killings has increased, targetted attacks on minorities and

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Situation peaceful in J&K, does Rahul want to create disturbance: Anurag Thakur

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Does Rahul Gandhi want to vitiate the atmosphere in Kashmir, Union minister Anurag Thakur asked on Wednesday about the Congress' plans to unfurl the tricolour in the Valley and stressed that the situation in Jammu and Kashmir has improved significantly under the Modi government.

An estimated 1.6 crore tourists have visited Jammu and Kashmir in one year, which is a record in itself, the minister told reporters.

"Now tourists can visit every corner of Jammu and Kashmir. This shows that the situation has improved in Jammu and Kashmir. There

are no stone pelting incidents. Does Rahul Gandhi want to go there to spoil the atmosphere?"

"Today, anyone can unfurl

the tricolour in any part of

Jammu and Kashmir because the Narendra Modi government has ended Article 370 and Article 35A in J&K," he added. Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Yatra, which started in Kanyakumari in September,

is scheduled to end in Kashmir next month. Thakur reminded him of the Ekta Yatra undertaken in 1992 by then BJP president Murli Manohar Joshi

and Narendra Modi, who had

unfurled the national **■ CONTD ON PAGE 9**

Max: 17.4°C Max: 80 Max: 10.0°C Max: 94 Min: 65 Sunset: 17:34 Hours

Sunrise: 07:32 Hours

WEATHER