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## Modi terms dynastic politics biggest threat to democracy; cites example of past Govts in J&K, UP

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday slammed dynasty politics and elaborated how it is different from having second-generation leaders in a political party.

"When a party is run for generations by a family, there is only dynasty, no dynamics. In Jammu and Kashmir, there are two parties run by two separate families; you can see a similar trend in Haryana, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu. Dynastic politics is the biggest enemy of democracy", Narendra Modi said in an interview to news agency ANI.

The Prime Minister explained on this further, saying that in dynastic parties, positions such as that of the president, parliamentary board chief, etc., are passed down from father to son.

Describing dynastic politics to be a "big threat and the biggest enemy of democ-



racy" as it affects the talent coming into a political party, Modi said there is a difference between one or two people from a family getting tickets and winning elections and all the important political positions in a party going to a particular family in the party.

"It is like the family runs the party," he said, adding that this is a big danger to democracy. "The family-run parties are the biggest enemy of democracy as it

negates the basic norms. Their goal is to save the family even if there is no benefit in it for the country."

Narendra Modi highlighted how the entry of more talents in public life is good for the country.

The Prime Minister said: "The biggest casualty in parties that save one family is talent. The democratisation of political parties is important. Dynastic politics deters youth from entering politics."

Explaining his stance further, PM Modi said: "When dynastic politics takes place, family is supreme, save the family whether the party is saved or not, whether the country is saved or not, when this happens, what is the first casualty? Howsoever the son, he will be the party chief, the biggest casualty then is talent."

He added the youth of the nation have no option to join any other party apart from the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) as everywhere else there is dynastic politics. Such parties use the youths for some time and then dump them, the Prime Minister said, adding that the youth often face the dilemma of either serving the party's (dynastic) interest or the nation's, as doing the latter might end their political journey." Modi concluded by saying that a growing number of youths are joining the BJP because it functions in a democratic manner.

### Four Inspectors among 9 police personnel transferred

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Superintendent of Police, Ramban, Mohita Sharma on Wednesday transferred four inspectors among nine police officials.

As per order, Inspr. Ajit Singh, has been transferred from Police Station (PS) Batote and posted at DPL Ramban; Inspr. Sudhir Sadhotra has been transferred from DPL Ramban and posted as Station

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### Govt bans import of drones

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The government on Wednesday banned import of drones, with certain exceptions, as part of efforts to promote manufacturing of drones in the country.

Import of drones for R&D, defence and security purposes have been exempted from the ban but such imports will require due clearances.

"Import of drone components, however, shall

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## J&K security scenario reviewed at high-level conclave



Senior officers during the conclave at Tiger Division.

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A 'Senior Officers Conclave', comprising all security forces and intelligence agencies working in Jammu region, was held on Wednesday here, defence spokesperson said.

The conclave, co-chaired by Rising Star Corps commander Lt Gen P.N. Ananthanarayanan, and DGP Dilbag Singh, was attended by Home

Secretary Shaleen Kabra,

Special DG, CID, R.R Swain, Divisional Commissioner, Jammu, all Brigade Commanders of Jammu and Samba Divisions along with IG level officers from the J&K Police, the BSF, the CRPF, and Deputy Directors from the State Intelligence Bureau and the Special Bureau, defence spokesperson said.

"This meeting was aimed at achieving greater synergy between armed forces,

intelligence agencies, and paramilitary forces," he said.

"Various issues of common interest including upcoming Amarnath Yatra, Narco-Terror Nexus and Drone counter measures were discussed to enhance the operational preparedness of security forces deployed in Jammu in safeguarding the territorial integrity and internal security of Jammu & Kashmir," spokesperson said.

### J&K Govt to bear treatment cost, ensure rehabilitation of Srinagar acid attack victim

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir government would bear the treatment expenses of the 24-year-old acid attack victim and ensure her complete rehabilitation, even as the police would file a charge-sheet in the case in the next few days, officials said on Wednesday.

The woman was hospitalised with burns after acid was thrown on her in Hawal area here on February 1.

"The government is bearing complete expenses of the treatment of the victim. She was provided monetary help and shifted to Chennai hospital due to the government's

intervention and the directions of Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha," Srinagar Deputy Commissioner Ajaz Assad told reporters here.

The deputy commissioner said the administration is duty-bound to provide for not only the treatment of the victim but her complete rehabilitation as well.

Assad said the doctors in Chennai have indicated a positive prognosis for the treatment and "we all pray for her speedy recovery".

He said the administration has geared up for regulating the sale of acid in the city.

"Our market

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## COVID: 681 new cases, 4 more deaths in J&K

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday recorded 681 fresh Covid cases that took the infection tally to 4,48,786, while four more fatalities pushed the death toll to 4,732, officials said. Of the fresh cases, 359 were from Jammu division and 322 from the Kashmir division, they said. Jammu district recorded the highest 184 cases followed by 139 cases in Srinagar district.

There are 10,230 active cases in the Union Territory, they said, adding that the overall recoveries have reached 4,33,824.

The death toll has reached 4,732 after four more fatalities



were reported in the past 24 hours, officials said.

There were 51 confirmed cases of Mucormycosis (black fungus) in the Union

Territory. No fresh case was reported since last evening, officials added.

Meanwhile, active COVID cases in Ladakh has declined

### Hanjura resigns as PDP General Secretary

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Senior PDP leader Ghulam Nabi Hanjura on Wednesday resigned as the general secretary of the party but will continue as its basic member; a party leader said. Hanjura was not available for comment. The PDP leader said that Hanjura has resigned as the general secretary of the party but he will continue to be associated with the party. "In his resignation message, Hanjura has said while he resigns from the post of the general secretary, he will continue to work as a basic member of the PDP," the leader said, without giving the reasons for the senior leaders' move.

## J&K people not happy with delimitation commission draft report: Cong

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The people in Jammu and Kashmir are not happy with the draft delimitation commission report, All India Women Congress General Secretary Nagma Morarji said on Wednesday, as she lashed out at BJP over its alleged anti-people policies and "dividing the country on communal lines."

The actress turned politician also condemned the heckling of a hijab-clad girl by a group of men sporting saffron scarves at a college in Karnataka and said such diversionary tactics are employed to hoodwink the



public from the real issues .

She also paid tributes to seven army personnel who lost their lives in an avalanche in Arunachal Pradesh.

People (in Jammu and Kashmir) are not happy with the proposed draft delimitation commission report. You have seen hundreds of BJP workers protesting and submitting their resignation (to protest the proposed merger of Suchetgarh assembly constituency on Monday) when the report is out, you will see more protests, the Congress leader told reporters at the conclusion of her three-day visit to Jammu.

Nagma said she visited Suchetgarh sector near the International Border in the outskirts of Jammu on

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### Active COVID-19 cases in country declining

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: India logged 71,365 new coronavirus infections taking the country's total tally of COVID-19 cases to 4,24,10,976, while the active cases declined to 8,92,828, according to the Union Health Ministry data updated on Wednesday.

The death toll climbed to 5,05,279 with 1,217 fresh fatalities, the data updated at 8 am stated. The

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### Dry weather in Kashmir over next few days

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The minimum temperature in Kashmir, barring Srinagar, settled below the freezing point, even as the Meteorological department predicted mainly dry weather over the next few days, officials said on Wednesday.

Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, recorded a low of 0.6

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**WEATHER**

**Temperature (Jammu)**

Max: 21.0°C Min: 8.8°C

**Humidity**

Max : 79 Min : 52

**Temperature (Srinagar)**

Max: 11.7°C Min: 0.6°C

**Humidity**

Max : 90 Min: 68

Sunset : 18:12 Hours

Sunrise : 07:20 Hours

## Properties of 610 KPs restored in Valley

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: As many as 610 Kashmiri Pandits were given back their properties left behind in Jammu and Kashmir following eruption of militancy there in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

Union Minister of State for Home Nityanand Rai also said in the Rajya Sabha that 3,000 state government jobs were created for Kashmiri migrants under the Prime Minister's Development Package-2015 (PMDP-2015) with an outlay of Rs 1,080 crore.

The Jammu and Kashmir government has appointed 1,739 migrants and selected additional 1,098 migrants under PMDP-2015.

As per the information provided by the government of

Jammu and Kashmir, the land of 610 applicants (migrants) has been restored in the last five years, he said in a written reply to a question.

The minister said the Jammu and Kashmir Migrant Immovable Property (Preservation, Protection and Restraint on Distress Sales) Act, 1997, District Magistrates (DMs) of the district concerned in Jammu and Kashmir are the legal custodians of the immovable properties of the migrants.

The DMs are empowered to take all steps for the preservation and protection of such properties.

The government has taken several measures to

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## Unemployment, price rise become biggest problems: Farooq

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Unemployment has become the biggest problem in the country, along with price rise of essential commodities, and the government must take urgent steps to resolve the two key issues, National Conference leader Farooq Abdullah said on Wednesday.

Initiating the debate on the Union Budget on the third day of the discussion, he said despite having higher degrees scores of youths in the country are without jobs.

"As they don't have jobs, many of the youths are under depression," Abdullah said.

The former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister said the prices of all essential commodities are on the rise



and people are suffering due to it.

He said oil price is sky rocketing which is having a cascading effect on all products as most them are being transported from one place to others and asked the government to reduce the taxes on petroleum products to

give relief to the people.

"Now the poor is becoming poorer and the rich is becoming richer," he said.

Abdullah said fund allocation to the employment generating scheme MGNREGA, which is the lifeline for the poor, has been reduced and asked the government to allocate more funds to it.

He appealed to the government to ensure that locals get the employment opportunities at the ongoing power projects in Jammu and Kashmir.

The NC leader complimented the government for withdrawing the three farm laws as demanded by farmers and suggested that in future if any bill is brought, it

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## Physical hearings to resume in courts across J&K, Ladakh from Feb 14

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Physical hearing with certain restrictions would resume in courts across Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh from February 14, Chief Justice Pankaj Mithal said on Wednesday as he issued fresh guidelines amid gradual improvement in the COVID-19 situation.

However, the chief justice of the High Court of J&K and Ladakh said the entry of litigants, clerks and agents of advocates into courtrooms shall remain prohibited for the time being, while judicial custody remands shall be given only through video conference as far as permissible.

In an order issued on Wednesday evening, Justice Mithal said the high court order of June 30, 2020 stand

revived and the hearing of cases listed before a bench in the high court is permitted through physical mode also with the restriction that in no courtroom more than 10 advocates would be allowed at a time.

"The guidelines will come into effect from February 14," the order said.

It said the district and subordinate courts and tribunals in UTs of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh would also start functioning through physical mode.

"Entry of advocates into the courtrooms before district and subordinate courts and tribunals shall be restricted to five advocates only at a given time," the order said.

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