

03 Trident Production launches maiden Punjabi Video Ghazal ‘Shikwa’

09 Three Doda residents arrested at Jammu airport for impersonation

10 Senior J&K Spikers draw blank in close contests

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OYO Group, J&K Govt launch rural home stay project Govt to support 500 youth; Rs 50,000 assistance per home stay to be provided for refurbishment: LG



LG Manoj Sinha during launch of J&K Govt and OYO Group's rural home-stay under project Crown of Incredible India.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: As the Jammu and Kashmir Government will support 500 youth for establishing home stay units under Mission Youth, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Thursday announced Rs. 50,000 special financial assistance to entrepreneur willing to establish the unit.

"The UT has emerged as a leader in the tourism sector over the last two and a half years", the Lieutenant Governor said, after the Jammu & Kashmir Government and world's leading travel tech platform, OYO Group launched rural home stay under project "Crown of Incredible India" in a special event at Raj

Bhawan.

With a market giant like OYO coming onboard, we are making in-roads to encourage micro-entrepreneurs in the villages and revitalizing local art & crafts and redevelopment of rural areas, added the Lt Governor, who presided over the event. Undoubtedly, nature has blessed J&K with great sce-

nic beauty, and rural home stays will offer a piece of eternal culture, cuisine, traditions, and warm & friendly hospitality of J&K UT to domestic & International travelers, the Lt Governor observed.

This new initiative will empower local communities, youth and women, fulfilling the vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat. Through vocal for local products, individuals and enterprises will help in poverty alleviation and sustainable development, said the Lt Governor.

The venture will help in building a tourist infrastructure of world standards in rural J&K. By December this year, around 200 home stays will be available on OYO platform, he added.

Under the guidance of Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, the tourism sector has made unprecedented

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35 officers appointed to JKAS Time Scale

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Government on Thursday appointed (by promotion) of the 35 officers of departmental feeding services to the Time Scale of Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Service.

"In terms of the Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Service Rules, 2008, sanction is accorded to the appointment (by promotion) of 35 officers of departmental feeding services to

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Four IAS officers transferred

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The government on Thursday transferred four IAS officers.

According to the order issued by Manoj Kumar Dwivedi, Principal Secretary, General Administration Department, Abhishek Sharma, IAS (CG:2018), Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Katra, holding additional charge of Sub-Registrar, Katra, has been transferred and posted

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J&K Govt signs pact with New Zealand for transforming sheep farming sector

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir government on Thursday signed a pact with New Zealand for the transformation of the sheep farming sector in the Union territory, officials said.

The virtual MoC signing ceremony was presided over by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhawan.

The MoC was signed by Navin Kumar Choudhary, Principal Secretary to J&K Government, Animal & Sheep Husbandry Department and Mischa Mannix-Opie, Executive Director, New Zealand G2G as a mutual commitment between J&K and New Zealand for complementing each other's capability in sheep sector.

The Lt Governor observed that the new partnership between J&K and New Zealand will boost production & productivity in livestock sector of the UT.

Overarching objective of

the MoC is to improve farmers' remuneration, transfer of technology in research & development as well as marketing & value addition of sheep products of J&K, the Lt Governor said.

New Zealand is an important partner of India's expanding relationship globally and we attach special values to our ties not only because of deep bonding and cultural affinities but also from a mature understanding of our strategic convergences, global interests and economic potential, observed the Lt Governor.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern believe in shared commitment to promote ideals of democracy, peace and prosperity for the people. Despite turbulent events of global pandemic since the last two years, there has been almost seamless continuity in India-New Zealand relationship, said the Lt Governor.

This year marks 70th anniversary of commencement of bilateral relations between our two countries. It gives us opportunity to strengthen our partnership and our resolve to construct a strong edifice of a long term, mutual reinforcing economic relationship, the Lt Governor added.

Now, expanding our relationship further, New Zealand G2G, the well known public sector entity actively partnering with other Indian states to leverage expertise and solutions for sustainable development has entered into a cooperation agreement with J&K to encourage collaboration in the field of sheep husbandry, capacity building, technology transfer and training.

The new partnership is aimed at doubling produce in the next three years with substantial increment in quality of livestock products, wool production and

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COVID: 547 new cases, seven more deaths in J&K

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir on Thursday recorded 547 fresh Covid cases that took the infection tally to 4,49,333, while seven more fatalities pushed the death toll to 4,739, officials said.

Of the fresh cases, 307 were from the Jammu division and 240 from the Kashmir division, they said.

Jammu district recorded the highest 176 cases followed by 103 cases in Srinagar district, officials said.

There are 8,512 active cases in the Union Territory, while the overall recoveries

have reached 4,36,082, they said.

The death toll has reached 4,739 after seven new 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, they added.

Meanwhile, Ladakh reported 86 new Covid cases that took the infection tally to 27,148, officials said.

The number of active cases stands at 696 -- 476 in Leh and 220 in Kargil, they said.

The Union Territory

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J&K Admn sets May deadline to launch various e-governance initiatives on single platform

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir administration has set a timeline of May this year to launch various e-governance initiatives on a single platform towards promoting ease of living in the Union Territory.

Chief Secretary Arun Kumar Mehta on Thursday chaired a meeting to launch Digital JK, Digital Districts and Digital Panchayats campaign to bring in various e-governance initiatives on a single platform towards promoting ease of living in Jammu and Kashmir. Administrative Secretaries of

departments of Health & Medical Education, School Education, Revenue, Rural Development, Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs and Information Technology were present in the meeting.

The Chief Secretary asked the IT consultants to work towards evolving an integrated 'Digital J&K, Digital Districts and Digital Panchayats' model in Mission mode by creating unified platform to provide all government services by May 2022.

Mehta mentioned that more than 200 government

services offered by various departments will be brought online on a single platform with a provision for Single Sign-On (SSO) through first registration which will go a long way in assisting the public to avail multiple government services by using their unique digital IDs.

Mehta entrusted upon the concerned Departments to undertake major procedure simplifications across departments by doing away with unnecessary compliance burden and use of technological interventions to further streamline the service

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JKAS officer promoted to Selection Grade

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Government on Thursday promoted a JKAS officer to the Selection Grade of Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Service. "Sanction is accorded to the promotion of Sapna Kotwal, JKAS, Project Manager, IWMP, Udhampur to the Selection Grade of the Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Service in pay level 12 (Rs. 78800-209200), notionally from December 10, 2021 and on regular basis from January 18, 2022," reads an order issued by Manoj Kumar Dwivedi, Principal Secretary, General Administration Department.

All drone operators to compulsorily register on digital sky platform of DGCA: Div Com Jammu

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Divisional Administration has issued a circular making it obligatory on all drone operators to register their 'drones' as per the Government's guidelines in view of the Drone Rules 2021, notified by the Ministry of Civil Aviation. The said Rules are applicable to all persons owning, possessing or engaged in leasing, operating, transferring or maintaining unmanned aircraft systems in India.

The circular issued on Thursday by the Div Com reads, 'all persons operating an unmanned aircraft system shall have to compulsori-

ly register themselves by making an application in Form D-2 on digital sky platform (www.digitalsky.dgca.gov.in) and obtain a Unique Identification Number (UIN). Rule 6 Part III provides that no unmanned aircraft shall be operated unless it conforms to a type certificate or is exempted from the requirement of a type certificate under these Rules.

Under the rules, the drones weighing less than or equal to 250 grams have been classified as nano while those weighing between 250 grams and 2 kilograms have

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Omar targets Yogi for saying UP will turn into Kashmir if BJP doesn't return to power

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: National Conference leader Omar Abdullah on Thursday hit out at Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath for asking people to return the BJP to power or face the possibility of the state turning into a "Kashmir, Kerala or Bengal". "He should be


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3.8 magnitude earthquake hits J&K

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: A 3.8 magnitude earthquake hit Jammu and Kashmir on Thursday, but there were no reports of any damage or loss of life, officials said.

Its epicentre was at a depth of 29 kilometres in Kel, Gilgit-Baltistan, and tremors were felt in Jammu and Kashmir around 12.45 pm, they said. This is the second quake felt in Jammu and Kashmir in the last five days.



WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 21.1°C Min: 7.1°C

Humidity
Max : 76 Min : 48

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 12.4°C Min: -0.1°C

Humidity
Max : 82 Min: 73

Sunset : 18:13 Hours
Sunrise : 07:19 Hours

Govt makes 3-point seat belts mandatory for all front-facing passengers in car

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The government has made it mandatory for automakers to provide three-point seat belts for all front-facing passengers in a car.

The norm will also be applicable for the middle seat in the rear row of a car, Union minister Nitin Gadkari said at a press conference on Thursday.

"I have signed a file yesterday to make it mandatory for automakers to provide three-point seat belts for all the front facing passengers in a car," the road transport and highways minister said.

He did not mention about the date from which the new requirement will come into force.

Presently, only the front seats and two rear seats in most cars produced in the country have three-point seat belts. However, the centre or middle rear seat in these cars come equipped with only a two-point or lap seat belt, similar to the ones provided in aircraft seats.

Last month, the ministry said it will make it mandatory for carmakers to provide a minimum of six airbags in motor vehicles that can carry up to 8 passengers for

enhanced safety of occupants from October this year.

As many as 1.5 lakh people die every year in 5 lakh road accidents in the country and need of the hour is to create mass awareness for road safety measures by information dissemination, Gadkari said on Thursday.

According to him, a system is being proposed for star rating of vehicles based on the standards and protocol to improve safety.

Electronic Stability Control, Advanced Emergency Braking Systems, ease of mobility

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Super, Sub Speciality OPD start in Govt Rajiv Gandhi Hospital

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In the interest of better patient care, Directorate of Health Services Jammu has started Super/ Sub Speciality OPD for the benefit of general public at Government Rajiv Gandhi Hospital & LRPU Gangyal Jammu.

As per order issued on Thursday by I/C Medical Superintendent, Govt. Rajiv Gandhi Hospital & LRPU Gangyal Jammu, Dr. Navdeep Singh, (MS, FISS, Spine Surgery) shall be available for consultation on Monday and Thursday, Dr. Surinder Sharma

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ACB registers case against XEN PMGSY for disproportionate assets

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) Jammu & Kashmir has registered a case against Satish Kumar Bhagat, the then Executive Engineer PMGSY Satish Kumar Bhagat for possessing disproportionate assets. According to ACB, a preliminary enquiry was conducted to probe into allegations of raising assets disproportionate to known sources of income of public servant namely Satish Kumar Bhagat, the then Incharge Executive Engineer, PMGSY, Poonch. Consequently, during the probe, it was surfaced that

suspect is in possession of huge assets in shape of immovable / moveable properties on his name and his family members, including a palatial house at H No 168, Sector No. 03, Club Road, Upper Roop Nagar on a plot of land measuring about 12 Marlas, a plot measuring 7 Marlas at Chak Changernar falling under Khasra No. 319 min/49, Ciaz car bearing Registration No JK02BX-7591, Baleno car bearing registration number JK02CE-9142, Bank balance, Gold and other electronic items etc. The ACB found that aforementioned

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Govt releases Special Scale to 33 JKAS officers

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Government on Thursday released Special Scale (Non-Functional) to the 33 members of the Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Service.

"In terms of Non-Functional (Monetary) Scheme (NFS) notified vide SRO-198 dated April 25, 2018, sanction is accorded to the release of Special Scale (Non-functional) of Rs. 37,400-67,000 with Grade Pay of Rs. 8700 [now revised to Level 13 (123100-215900)] of the Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Service with effect

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Disobeying orders of seniors: Inquiry committee warns DySP Bashir Teeli to remain careful in future in discharge of duty

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Government on Thursday closed inquiry against the then DySP, IRP 11th Battalion, Bashir Ahmad Teeli with the warning to remain careful in future in discharge of official duty.

The order issued by Shaleen Kabra, Principal Secretary, Home Department reads, "On August 25, 2016, Bashir Ahmad Teeli, the then Dy SP, IRP 11th Battalion was deployed for law and order duties in Anantnag Town by the SSP Anantnag however, the officer insisted on providing of a specific vehicle for carrying out the assignment. On August 26, 2016, Bashir Ahmad Teeli, was again earmarked for law and order

duties by the SSP Anantnag at Nandpora, Khanabal Zone, which assignment was again refused by the officer on the same pretext; and based on the report of the IGP Kashmir Zone regarding disobedience of orders of his seniors by Bashir Ahmad Teeli, the DGP J&K recommended initiation of a departmental inquiry against Teeli,"

"Upon examination, a prima-facie case of disobedience of the orders was made out against Bashir Ahmad and Articles of charge along with Statement of Imputations was served upon him, who in his statement of defence, denied the charges. The response furnished by the officer was not found

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Principal Secretary Higher Education Department, Rohit Kansal chairing a meeting in Jammu.

Education Policy NEP 2020, the focus had moved to quality education, flexibility in curriculum and globalization of outlook.

In his message to the principals, the Principal Secretary stressed that while good infrastructure was important for any institution, the true aim of an insti-

tute of higher learning was to impart a humanistic, modern and high quality education. He asked the Principals to introduce regular systems of pupil feedback and added that the feedback of the educators would form an important part of their evaluation. The Principal Secretary instructed the principals to

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