

02 Journalist, woman attacked by Gujjars in Gharota

03 Jammu University to be declared Innovation & Research hub under NEP: Kansal

10 J&K's 3 Deaf Judokas in Indian team for Deaflympic at Brazil

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PoK resident held along LoC in Poonch
■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
JAMMU: A resident of Pakistan-occupied-Kashmir (PoK) was apprehended on Monday by the Army along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district, officials said.

Alert troops guarding the LoC noticed the movement of a person attempting to sneak into the Indian side from across the border

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Industrial Oil Supply: Retired IGP's son duped of Rs 26 lakh

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
JAMMU: Satwari police has registered an FIR on the written complaint of one Angad Singh, son of a retired IGP of J&K Police J P Singh.

According to the complaint, Angad entered into a deal for the supply of Industrial oil with a Chennai-based company. He paid Rs 26 lakh to the company for oil trading. However, on no response from the company, an FIR has been lodged with the Satwari police stating that the payment of Rs 26 lakh

ACB inspector shot at outside mosque in Srinagar
■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
SRINAGAR: Suspected terrorists shot at a police officer outside a mosque in Jammu and Kashmir's Batmaloo area here on Monday, officials said. The bullet hit inspector Firdous Sheikh, currently posted in the Anti-Corruption Bureau, on his neck and he was rushed to hospital for treatment, they said. Further details are awaited.

J&K reports 42 new COVID cases, Ladakh 11
■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir on Monday reported 42 new cases of coronavirus, taking the infection tally to 4,52,997 while no death was reported in the last 24 hours, officials said.

Of the fresh cases, 22 were from the Jammu division and 20 from the Kashmir division, they said.

Jammu district recorded

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WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 21.6°C Min: 7.9°C

Humidity
Max: 77 Min: 58

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 10.8°C Min: -0.6°C

Humidity
Max: 85 Min: 51

Sunset : 18:28 Hours
Sunrise : 07:01 Hours

Modi chairs meeting on Ukraine; 4 ministers to travel to coordinate evacuation of Indians

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
NEW DELHI: Stepping up its efforts to evacuate thousands of Indians stuck in Ukraine, the government on Monday decided to send four Union ministers to the neighbouring countries of the war-torn country to coordinate the evacuation process even as the external affairs ministry said nearly 8,000 nationals have returned in the last fortnight.

The decision to send Hardeep Puri, Jyotiraditya Scindia, Kiren Rijiju and V K Singh as "special envoys" of India to coordinate the evacuation process was taken at a meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who also held another high-level meeting in the evening on Ukraine, government sources said.

Official sources said Modi spoke to all four ministers personally to convey the decision that they will be coordinating evacuation efforts on the ground from the coun-



Ukraine slows Russian advance under shadow of nuclear threat

KYIV: Outgunned but determined Ukrainian troops slowed Russia's advance and held onto the capital and other key cities at least for now.

In the face of stiff resistance and devastating sanctions, President Vladimir Putin ordered Russia's nuclear forces put on high alert, threatening to elevate the war to a terrifying new level.

Explosions and gunfire that have disrupted life since the invasion began last week appeared to subside around Kyiv overnight, as Ukrainian and Russian delegations met Monday on Ukraine's border with Belarus.

It's unclear what, if anything, those talks would yield.

Terrified Ukrainian families huddled in shelters, basements or corridors, waiting to find out. Exact death tolls are unclear, but the UN human rights

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tries in Ukraine's neighbourhood.

Scindia will take care of evacuation efforts from Romania and Moldova while Rijiju will go to Slovakia, sources said, adding Puri will go to Hungary and Singh will be in Poland to manage the evacuation.

The decision to send these ministers came a day after Modi asserted that ensuring the safety of Indian students and evacuating them is the government's top priority.

Monday's meeting was also attended by several ministers, including External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal, National Security Adviser Ajit Doval and Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla among other senior officials.

Also on Monday, Shringla briefed a parliamentary panel on the situation in Ukraine amid a Russian

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Revenue Records Scam; Recovery of Rs 26 lakh Court extends 5 days police remand of former Tehsildar, 3 others

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
JAMMU: In a much publicized missing revenue records scam, wherein Jammu Police and Revenue authorities jointly carried out raids at 21 locations of 13 property dealers and serving & retired officials of Revenue Department and arrested four persons besides effecting recovery of



Two more Patwaris arrested; total arrests reach 6
JAMMU: The Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing the revenue scam has arrested two more patwaris in connection with the missing record. Those who have been arrested include Bashir Ahmed, resident of Panjgrain, Nagrota, presently staying at Sarwal locality and Sushil Kumar Sharma, resident of Akhnoor, presently at Ghrota.

With the arrest of two these accused, the total number of arrests are at six. Sources informed that there is a long list of accused whose names have figured during the probe.

cash around Rs 26 lakh and a large number of official documents, the Sub-Judge Jammu (13th FC) Suhseel

Singh has extended five days police remand of four accused namely Sadeeq Poswal, a property dealer of Channi Himmat, Mohammad Bashir, retired Tehsildar, resident of Janipur; Dharampal, retired Girdawar from Sarore and Ghulam Rasool, retired Girdawar hailing from Sunjwan.

Earlier, these accused were on 8-day police remand. Last week, Jammu Police had also framed a six-member Special Investigation Team (SIT) to probe as names of senior officials also surfaced during the investigations.

The SIT is headed by

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Jammu-Srinagar National Highway closed after landslide 123 passengers stranded in J&K, Ladakh airlifted by IAF



have pressed men and machinery and efforts are on to make the highway traffic worthy.

"No fresh traffic was allowed either from Jammu or Srinagar this morning

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Div Com, IGP visit Jamia Masjid to examine feasibility of its reopening
■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
SRINAGAR: In an indication of the imminent reopening of the Jamia Masjid in Srinagar's old city area for Friday prayers, senior civil administration and police officials on Monday visited the historic mosque to inspect it, officials said here.

Kashmir's Divisional Commissioner P K Pole and zonal Inspector General of Police Vijay Kumar visited the 14th Century mosque in the Nowhatta area, the officials said.

They said Pole and Kumar took stock of the situation and arrangements being

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Colourful 'Shiv Barat' taken out in Jammu on Maha Shivratri.

(Pic by Shipra Thakur)

Impressive Shobha Yatra taken out on eve of Maha Shivratri

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
JAMMU: An impressive "Shobha Yatra" was taken out in the city on the eve of Mahashivratri on Monday.

Ajatshatru Singh, Trustee J&K Dharmarth Trust along with his wife Ritu Singh flagged off Shobha Yatra on the eve of Maha Shivratri

here at Ranbireswar Mandir.

On the occasion, President J&K Dharmarth Trust, Advocate Ajay Gandotra and Secretary Dr Gopal Parthasarathi Sharma also accompanied Ajatshatru Singh during the flagging off of the Yatra. Earlier,

Ajatshatru Singh and his wife performed Puja Archana and other rituals at the Ranbireswar Mandir.

Interacting with media persons, Ajatshatru said that the Shobha Yatra has been organized after a gap of two years due to Covid

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India's GDP grows 5.4 pc in Q3; remains world's fastest growing major economy

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
NEW DELHI: India's economic growth slowed to 5.4 per cent in the third quarter of 2021-22 but was higher than China's GDP expansion of 4 per cent during the same period and the country retained its position as the world's fastest growing major economy.

In the current fiscal, GDP growth stood at 20.3 per cent in April-June quarter and 8.5 per cent in July-September period.

The National Statistical Office (NSO) in its second advance estimates of national accounts released on Monday pegged the country's

growth for 2021-22 at 8.9 per cent, a tad lower than 9.2 per cent estimated in its first advance estimates released in January.

Besides, NSO revised its estimates of GDP contraction for the coronavirus pandemic-hit last financial year (2020-21) to 6.6 per cent. Earlier, the estimate was 7.3 per cent contraction.

The Indian economy contracted 23.8 per cent in April-June in 2020 and 6.6 per cent in July-September quarter in 2020.

"While an adverse base was expected to flatten growth in Q3 FY2022, the initial

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Massive crackdown on drug peddling in Srinagar; 69 arrested

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
SRINAGAR: Authorities in the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir on Monday intensified raids at the drug peddling and drug abuse hotspots under Mission Wapsi' and arrested 69 drug peddlers while booking 21 people under the stringent Public Safety Act.

In a massive crackdown, the Srinagar district administration conducted raids across the city to break the supply chain of drugs in the district, an official spokesman said, adding a large quantity of narcotics and cash generated due to its

sale were seized.

He said the anti-drugs operation was monitored by Srinagar district magistrate Mohammad Aijaz Asad and senior superintendent of police Rakesh Balwal.

The raids were carried out at more than a dozen locations in all the tehsils of the district during which 21 drug peddlers were arrested and booked under Public Safety Act, while 69 drug peddlers found in substance abuse on the spot were also detained under various provisions of the CrPe, the spokesman said.

Speaking about Mission

Wapsi', district magistrate Asad said the administration will continue its fight against drug peddling and ensure that Srinagar is freed from the menace.

In view of rehabilitating the people affected due to substance abuse, he said the district administration will provide all possible support in helping them settle in their careers and will also extend the benefits of various employment generation programmes of the government.

SSP Balwal said the operation against drug peddling and consumption will continue.

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LG Manoj Sinha thanked PM for highlighting Lake Preservation Efforts 'Mission Jal Thal' in Mann Ki Baat

Our civilisational history is rooted in rivers & lakes: LG

► **Proud of people of Srinagar for being an integral part of Mission Jal Thal, which restores heritage & protects environment; Mission Jal Thal is a Jan Andolan in Srinagar and it is restoring the glory of lakes & ponds: PM in Mann Ki Baat**

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
JAMMU/NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi lauded the efforts of Srinagar District Administration in restoring Gil Sar and Khushal Sar lakes of the city. During his monthly radio programme 'Mann Ki Baat', Prime Minister appreciated peoples' participation for cleaning the lakes under 'Mission Jal Thal'.

"Proud of the people of Srinagar for being an integral part of 'Mission Jal Thal', which restores heritage and protects the environment," Prime Minister

said.

"Jan Bhagidari and peoples resolve have always brought several transformations in our society. Mission Jal Thal is a Jan Andolan in Srinagar and it is restoring the glory of lakes and ponds. Besides Jan Bhagidari, technology is also played a major role in restoration of Kusal Sar and Gil Sar lake. A survey was done to remove the encroachments and a movement was launched against plastic waste. In the second phase efforts were made to restore the water channels and 19 waterfalls. In order to spread aware-



ness and ensure youth engagement, residents were nominated as water ambassadors," Hon'ble Prime Minister further said.

'Mission Jal Thal' was undertaken by District

tem around 50 years back, and was a major tourist destination, but over the years, had degraded significantly due to dumping of garbage and large scale discharge of sewage in the lakes. Also, due to this area being plagued by militancy over the years, the area of the lakes had been encroached with impunity.

The project relied on two pillars - use of latest technology and community participation. Latest techniques like Water Masters were used to clear encroachments in a record time of 100 days.

The water sources and

springs feeding the lakes were cleaned and restored to regenerate the natural flow of water and increase the water levels in the lakes. At the same time, there was a massive community engagement drive to bring together all the stakeholders. Influential people and youth leaders were appointed as Water Ambassadors to create community awareness about the importance and benefits of the restoration project.

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha expressed gratitude to the Prime Minister for highlighting the extraor-

dinary efforts of 'Mission Jal Thal', and applauded the people and Srinagar District Administration for exhibiting deep cultural sensitivity to the environment.

"Grateful to the Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi for highlighting Srinagar's 'Mission Jal Thal'. Our beautiful lakes are inextricably linked with the history, culture and customs of the country. Excellent work by Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Aijaz Asad and team for reversing degradation of natural inheritance," the

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