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10 JKOA presents Rangil Singh Awards for Sports Excellence

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Guidelines issued for COVID vaccination of children in 12-14 years age-group

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

NEW DELHI: The Centre on Tuesday released guidelines for COVID-19 vaccination of children between 12-14 years that will begin from March 16 and said only Corbevax vaccine would be used for the beneficiaries of this age group.

Two doses of Biological E's intramuscular vaccine Corbevax would be

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AEE, AE of JPDCL caught red-handed while accepting bribe of Rs 48,000

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Tuesday arrested two engineers of Jammu Power Distribution Corporation Limited (JPDCL) for accepting a bribe of Rs 48,000, an official said.

Assistant Executive Engineer, Surinder Kumar and Assistant Engineer Charanjeet Singh were caught red-handed accepting an amount of Rs 48,000 as bribe, a spokesman of ACB said.

He further told that after receiving a complaint from an electrical contractor, stating that he had been award-

'Kashmir Files' has rattled ecosystem that wanted to bury truth: Modi

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday praised 'The Kashmir Files', a movie based on the plight of displaced Kashmiri Hindus, and slammed the "campaign to discredit" it by those who claim to be the flagbearers of freedom of expression.

"They are shocked that the truth that they tried to suppress is now coming out with the backing of facts and efforts," Modi said in a ringing endorsement of the film that is now at the centre of a political slugfest with the Congress and some other opposition parties objecting to it.

Addressing the BJP parliamentary party meeting, Modi spoke at length about the film and lamented that no attempt has been made till now to make movies depicting the horrors of Partition and Emergency as there have been

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WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)

Max: 32.2°C Min: 18.5°C

Humidity

Max : 76 Min : 46

Temperature (Srinagar)

Max: 23.8°C Min: 10.8°C

Humidity

Max : 77 Min: 41

Sunset : 18:39 Hours

Sunrise : 06:41 Hours

J&K budget reflects PM's commitment for peace, progress, prosperity: LG

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor (LG) Manoj Sinha on Tuesday said the Union Territory budget for 2022-23 presented by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in the Lok Sabha reflects the commitment of Prime Minister Narendra Modi for peace, progress and prosperity.

Expressing his gratitude to the Prime Minister and the Union Finance Minister for the progressive and futuristic budget for rapid transformation of Jammu & Kashmir. He said: "Truly grateful for fulfilling the needs and aspirations of the people of J&K and to accelerate the pace of economic development. The budget will ensure equitable, sustainable, inclusive growth and more jobs".

This budget builds upon the good performance of the last one year, meets all the challenges for which adequate provisions have been made particularly in the area

of infrastructure development, facilitating investment & industrial growth & deepening grass-root democracy, added the Lt Governor.

J&K UT's budget 2022-23 reflects the commitment of Prime Minister Narendra Modi for peace, progress & prosperity of J&K. It will put in place social safety nets for last man in the queue, sufficient outlays for rural development, healthcare services, urban renewal missions, employment generation and youth initiatives, the Lt Governor said.

I am confident that the record Rs 1,12,950 crore budget and continued push for various flagship programmes of the Centre & UT will provide relief to all sections of the society - especially 'Common Man'. Our focus on increasing the investment in agriculture & allied sector, inclusive growth has been clearly underlined, observed the Lt Governor.

The budget pays lot of

emphasis on sustainable, equitable growth, more jobs, improving quality of life, education, strengthening the skill development, power sector, tourism, handicraft, tribal welfare, women empowerment & border areas development.

Good governance, deepening grass-root democracy, accelerated development & inclusive growth, facilitating investment & industrial growth, infrastructure development for improving quality of life, Broadening Social Inclusion were among the focus areas of the Budget 2022-23.

The Union Government has kept the provisions for various important initiatives having a greater impact on various sectors.

An amount of Rs 7,750 crore has been provisioned under Jal Jeevan Mission for achieving the objective of 100% piped water supply to each household; Rs

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LeT terrorist killed in encounter at Pulwama

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

SRINAGAR: A Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) militant was killed in an encounter with security forces in Pulwama district in south Kashmir on Tuesday, police said.

Based on a specific input generated by police regarding the presence of a terrorist in village Charsoo of Awnatipora, a cordon and search operation was launched by the security forces in the area, a

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Two JKAS officers transferred, one gets addl charge

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: The government on Tuesday transferred two JKAS officers and assigned additional charge to other.

In the interest of administration, the following transfers and postings are hereby ordered with immediate effect:-

According to order issued by Manoj Kumar Dwivedi, Principal Secretary, General Administration Department (GAD), Bashir Ahmad

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AC gives nod to various dev works, transfer of land for public purposes



LG Manoj Sinha chairing Administrative Council meeting in Jammu on Tuesday.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: The Administrative Council (AC) which met here under the chairmanship of the Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, on Tuesday accorded administrative approval to various developmental works in different districts of Jammu and Kashmir.

Farooq Khan and Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisors to the Lieutenant Governor, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary, J&K and Nitishwar Kumar, Principal Secretary to the Lieutenant

Governor attended the meeting.

The Administrative Council approved the modernization of existing slaughter Houses at Gujjar Nagar and Dogra Hall, Jammu at an estimated cost of Rs. 21.88 crore.

The project will ensure the availability of wholesome hygienic meat for human consumption, besides ensuring scientific disposal of waste, checking pollution in the area and addressing the concerns of the regulatory bodies like Pollution Control Board (PCB) and the NGT.

The modernization works will be completed within 12 months.

Further, the Administrative Council also approved the Construction of Multi Storey Parking at existing Bus Stand Doda at an estimated cost of Rs. 32.46 crore. The project will be spanned over an area of 9526.05 sq.mtrs and will accommodate 136 cars and 20 buses at a time, which otherwise are being parked on the road side causing traffic congestion. Additionally, 36 shops

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Pulwama CRPF attack: Court rejects plea of accused urging to declare him juvenile

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: In case regarding attack on CRPF convey at Pulwama, in which 40 CRPF persons were martyred, Special Judge NIA Sumit Gupta rejected plea of accused Waiz-ul-Islam declaring him as a Juvenile.

The instant application has been moved on behalf of accused A-7 namely Waiz-ul-Islam whereby he has raised claim of juvenility before the court. It was pleaded that as per case set up by prosecution, accused Waiz-ul-Islam is a terror associate of JeM and in August 2018, had harbored three JeM terrorists including Mohd Ismail

(A-11) @ Saif-ullah and Sameer Ahmed Dar (A-12) at house of one of his friends. As per allegations, the terrorist gave him a virtual number starting with +1 along with an OTP to activate the same for Whatsapp communication. He was also told to open an online shopping account on Amazon. Since accused Waiz-ul-Islam was already having an account on Amazon, Saif Ullah started sending him links to purchase certain items such as Apple-lighters, hiking-shoes, cargo-pants, Head-mount torches, LED flash lights, Aluminium

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ANTF recovers huge quantity of drugs, five inter-state narco-smugglers arrested

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Anti Narcotic Task Force (ANTF) J&K on Tuesday recovered huge quantities of drugs and arrested five inter-state narcotics smugglers.

According to ANTF SSP Vinay Sharma, on receiving a specific input that a truck carrying huge quantity of drugs is coming from Kashmir, the sleuths of ANTF laid nakas at various places in and around Jammu and intercepted a truck (JK04-9011) and one Alto Car (DLIC-0205) near

Jammu.

"On thorough checking of the truck, huge quantity of Poppy Husk was recovered and five narco dealers were arrested from the truck and the car," SSP said, adding that they have been identified as Bashir Ahmed Dar, son of Mohd Shazam Dar, resident of Charar e Sharief, Javid Ahmed, son of Sanaullah, resident of Pulwama, Dalip Singh, son of Manjeet Singh, resident of Kartarpur, Jalandhar, Paramjeet Singh, son of Manjeet Singh, resident of Ferozpur, Punjab and

Hanook Singh, son of Jagtaar Singh, resident of Ferozpur, Punjab.

"A total of One quintal and 60 Kg of Poppy Husk has been recovered which was being smuggled from Kashmir to Punjab," SSP Vinay Sharma said adding that whole operation was led by Inspector Varuneshwar Singh and Inspector Meenu Sharma of ANTF under close supervision of DySP Arun Jamwal, SHO Police Station ANTF, Jammu Division.

"A case under relevant sections of Narcotic Drugs

and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act has been registered," he said adding that during initial investigation, it has been found that these narco dealers were using fake registration number on truck to dodge the police. ANTF is investigating the forward and backward links of this consignment and more arrests are expected, he said.

SSP ANTF appealed general public to share any information regarding such narco dealers so that strict actions under law are taken against them.

All Tertiary Care Hospitals in J&K to be accredited through NABH

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: The Health and Medical Education Department has tied up with the National Accreditation Board for Hospitals and Healthcare Providers (NABH), a constituent Board of the Quality Council of India (QCI), for seeking NABH accreditation for tertiary care Hospitals in Jammu and Kashmir.

In a recent meeting held under the Chairmanship of Additional Chief Secretary, Health and Medical Education Department, Vivek Bharadwaj, with the Chief Executive

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Hijab row: Karnataka HC upholds ban in edu institutions; verdict challenged in SC

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

BENGALURU/NEW DELHI: Holding that hijab was not part of the "essential religious practice" in Islamic faith, the Karnataka High Court on Tuesday upheld the state government's ban on wearing the headscarf in educational institutions that had triggered protests by Muslim girl students and also a tense hijab-versus-saffron scarf row.

Hours after the high court dismissed petitions by some Muslim girl students from two government colleges in Udupi for removing the hijab curbs in classrooms, one of them challenged the verdict

in the Supreme Court. The high court had also said the prescription of school uniform is only a "reasonable restriction", constitutionally permissible which the students should not object to.

The Chief Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi-led three-judge full bench also spoke about the possibility of some 'unseen hands' behind the hijab row to engineer social unrest and disharmony, and expressed dismay over the issue being blown out of proportion by the powers that be. The other two judges in the bench were Justice Krishna S Dixit and Justice J M Khazi.

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71 Patwaris promoted as Girdawars in Jammu Div

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: The long pending demand of Revenue officials of Jammu Division was met on Tuesday with the Divisional Commissioner, Dr Raghav Langer ordering promotion of 71 Patwaris as Girdawars.

Pertinently, the last DPC of Patwaris was held in the year 2015 wherein 190 Patwaris were approved for promotion to the post of Girdawars. Thereafter no promotion was made due to pending litigations in the High Court / Central Administrative Tribunal. The issue revolved around giving prospective effect

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Army in high state of readiness to face evolving threats: GOC-in-C

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

UDHAMPUR : The Army's Northern Command is in a high state of readiness to face constantly evolving threats and challenges, General Officer-commanding-in-chief Lt Gen Upendra Dwivedi said on Tuesday.

The commander presented

117 soldiers awarded army medals

gallantry awards as well as distinguished service awards to bravehearts, both officers and other ranks, in a solemn and distinguished investiture ceremony here.

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Unlike India, national spirit among people makes China, Russia superpowers

ANCHOR

DOST KHAN

It is not military superiority that makes Russia and China superpowers-it is actually the spirit of nationalism and sense of discretion among the people that singles out the two countries as far far superior than the democracies across the world, especially India.

The recent events in India's neighbourhood have unfolded certain realities and raised several fundamental questions for Indians to ponder over. Russia's invasion in Ukraine and China's misadventure in Eastern Ladakh may be having different dimensions but the commonality between the two is the unprecedented backing they get from their people. Except for isolated incidents of

BLUNT BUTCHER

It so happened that Marina Ovsyannikova, an editor at state-controlled Channel 1, was detained after she ran on to the set on Monday holding an anti-war sign.

She was earlier reported missing by lawyers who said they had been searching for her all night.

She has been charged with organizing an unauthorized public event.

The administrative charge could be punished with a fine, community service or up to 10 days in jail. Contrary to this, many high profile journalists and media houses across India, including in Jammu

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protests in Moscow during the ongoing conflict, the Russians are largely supporting the government to keep NATO away from its frontiers.

The geo-politics in the backyards hugely highlight the infirmities of the Indian eco-system that 'empowers' the politicians to get away with any-

thing and everything in the name of democracy. The more they bleed the system, the more they gain the space in the ecosystem that inflicts huge scars on national security, sovereignty and integrity. Raising questions is a shortcut for becoming 'hero' overnight. This happened during the surgical strike in Pakistan when the who's who of the Indian opposition blamed the political dispensation and brought the defence forces under the scanner of suspicion by seeking evidence. Evidence of what...that Indian air warriors had actually destroyed the terror haven in the rogue nation. Same happened during the Galwan misadventure by China. Instead of hailing the forces for thwarting Chinese attempts, they kept insisting that the dragon had taken possession of vast land mass in the eastern Ladakh. The nation has disgustingly

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