

02 Woman arrested for beating 9-month old daughter mercilessly after video goes viral

03 Unprecedented number of Amarnath pilgrims a salute to PM, J&K security forces: Chugh

11 RHPCL & MEIL ink contract agreement for turnkey execution of 850MW Ratle HEP within stipulated timeframe

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

Ramzan Mubarak



No fresh COVID case reported in J&K

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Amid the grim scenario of pandemic times during the past two years, Jammu and Kashmir on Monday did not report any fresh Covid case, thus keeping the total number of positive cases to 453889.

According to the daily Media Bulletin, out of 453889 positive cases so far, 79 are Active Positive

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

India designates as terrorist Pakistani national involved in Pulwama attack

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: The government on Monday designated as terrorist Pakistani national Mohiuddin Aurangzeb Alamgir who was involved in the terror attack on a CRPF bus in Pulwama in 2019.

Forty CRPF personnel were killed in the February 14, 2019 attack. About a fortnight later, India had carried out an air strike on terrorist camps inside Pakistan in response.

In a notification, the Union Home Ministry said Alamgir, who used aliases Maktab Ameer, Mujahid Bhai and Muhammad Bhai, has been involved in the attack on the

Mercury continues upward trend, Jammu records hottest day

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The mercury maintained an upward trend across Jammu and Kashmir with winter capital Jammu recording the season's hottest day on Monday at 39.6 degrees Celsius -- 7.5 notches above normal.

Jammu city also recorded the hottest night at 22.9 degrees Celsius which was also 3.7 degrees above average during this part of the season, an official of the meteorological department said. Katra, the base camp for the pilgrims visiting Vishno Devi shrine, recorded a maximum of 35.6 degrees Celsius and a minimum of 21.9 degrees Celsius.

The summer capital Srinagar recorded a high of 28.9 degrees Celsius and a low of 9.9 degrees Celsius. The day temperature in the city was 8.8 notches above average, while the night temperature was also 2.3 degrees above normal, the official said.

WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)

Max: 39.6°C Min: 22.9°C

Humidity

Max : 63 Min : 38

Temperature (Srinagar)

Max: 28.9°C Min: 9.9°C

Humidity

Max : 74 Min: 36

Sunset : 18:58 Hours

Sunrise : 06:08 Hours

Pak ultra among 2 terrorists killed in Kulgam encounter

Terrorists again using mosques, Madrassas as shelters

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: A Pakistani terrorist was among two ultras killed in an encounter in Kulgam district, while two policemen were also injured, officials said Monday evening.

A police official said security forces launched a cordon and search operation in the Khurbatpora area of Kulgam in south Kashmir following inputs about the presence of terrorists there.

He said the search operation turned into an encounter after the terrorists fired up on the forces, who retaliated.

One #Pakistani #terrorist (code name Chacha) & one #hybrid terrorist killed. 02 Police Personnel also injured. They are being evacuated to hospital. #Encounter going on, Kashmir Inspector General of Police (IGP) Vijay Kumar said in a tweet around 7.30 pm. Meanwhile, faced with people in Kashmir increasingly refusing to give



them refuge, terrorists are going back to taking shelter in mosques and madrassas that not only help them evade security forces but also provide them a school of young minds to indoctrinate, officials said.

The people's reluctance to help terrorists and the government's decision to heighten the vigil and seize any house that shelters militants

rorists.

In the early 1990s, terrorists often used to hide in the Hazratbal Shrine as well as Charar-e-Sharief leading to massive stand-offs with security forces.

An analysis of recent encounters, particularly in south Kashmir, conducted by security forces revealed that Pakistan-sponsored terrorists are again using places of worship and religious schools as shelters.

This disturbing trend was visible in three encounters in Kulgam, Naina Batpora and Chiva Kalan in the past few weeks, the officials said.

Terrorists had deliberately taken shelter in mosques and madrassas with the dual aim of avoiding detection and inciting religious sentiments by instigating the use of force or firing by security forces.

Rauf, a terrorist who was apprehended by the Army in Pulwama district of

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Amarnath Yatra 2022 expected to be 'much bigger' than before

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR/NEW DELHI: This year's Amarnath Yatra is expected to be "much bigger" than before, with the administration here preparing to welcome about eight lakh pilgrims to the cave shrine in south Kashmir, officials said on Monday.

The arrangements for the 43-day pilgrimage, to be held after a gap of two years due to the Covid pandemic, were discussed at a meeting here chaired by Union Information and Broadcasting Ministry Secretary Apurva Chandra.

Chief Secretary Arun Kumar, divisional commissioners of Jammu and Kashmir regions, and deputy commissioners, also took part in the meeting.

Talking to reporters here, Chandra said during the meeting, it was informed that this year's yatra -- scheduled to begin from June 30 -- is expected to "be

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9



Registration for annual Amarnath Yatra commences

JAMMU: The registration for the annual pilgrimage to the cave shrine of Amarnath in south Kashmir commenced across the country on Monday with enthusiastic pilgrims making a beeline for designated bank branches to secure a permit for undertaking the journey.

The 43-day yatra is scheduled to start on June 30 after the coronavirus pandemic enforced break of two years. The journey will begin from the twin routes -- the traditional 48-km from Nunwan to the cave shrine from Pahalgam in south Kashmir's Anantnag, and 14-km shorter but steep Baltal route in Ganderbal district of central Kashmir. The government, this year, is also introducing

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

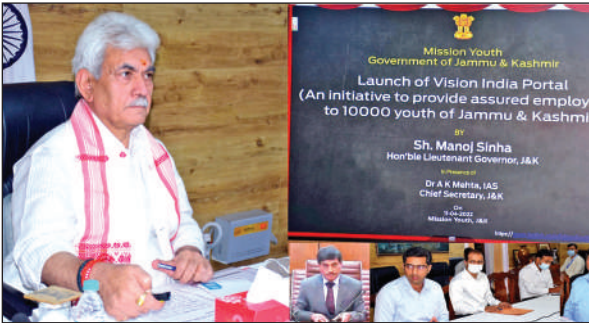
Initiatives underway to provide over 10,000 job opportunities to J&K youth in 2022: LG

Launches dedicated portal to connect youth with industry

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday launched a dedicated portal of Mission Youth in collaboration with Vision India, to connect the youth of J&K with the industry.

The initiative aims to provide more than 10,000 job opportunities to the youth in 2022.

The dedicated portal - AVSAR/Connect to Opportunities Initiative- has been provisioned to facilitate our youth with real-time information flow notifying students about pre-place-



LG Manoj Sinha launching dedicated portal of Mission Youth to connect youth of J&K with industry.

ment activities & job opportunities. All ITIs & other technical institutions in the UT will be on-boarded in the

program for achieving the best outcomes for our enterprising youths.

Speaking on the occasion,

Stability in neighbourhood good for us: Mehbooba on Pak developments

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Democracy is gaining roots in Pakistan and political stability in the neighbourhood "is good for us", PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti said here on Monday.

The former chief minister said Pakistan should decide whether it wants a new government or to hold fresh elections so that democracy flourishes there.

(Former Pakistan prime minister Zulfikar Ali) Bhutto used to say that India is alive because of the hustle-bustle of its democracy. Today, we are also seeing the hustle-bustle of

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

the Lt Governor said J&K Administration has taken many steps to create infrastructure, schemes and policies to speed up economic development, and to meet the aspirations of youth so they can contribute to society and achieve self-growth.

The easily accessible online platform would act as an interface between trained & skilled workforce and Industry requirement in J&K, he added.

"Jammu and Kashmir administration is determined to provide quality

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Modi congratulates new Pak PM, desires peace

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday congratulated Shabbaz Sharif on his election as the Pakistani prime minister and said India desires peace and stability in a region free of terror, so that we can focus on our development challenges and ensure the well-being and prosperity of our people," the prime minister said.

Shabbaz Sharif was sworn-in as the prime minister of Pakistan on Monday, bringing to an end the political uncertainty that had gripped the country since a no-confidence motion was introduced against his predecessor Imran Khan on March 8.



Patwari along with accomplice caught red-handed while accepting bribe

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) has arrested one Jameel Hussain Khan, Patwari Halqa Baghati-E-Shoor, Eidgah, Srinagar along with Shafat-ur-Rehman, retired Patwari, convicted in earlier trap case of ACB, for demanding and accepting a bribe of Rs 9,000 from complainant for issuance of revenue extracts.

As per an official spokesperson, the sleuths of ACB received a written complaint alleging therein that one Jameel Hussain Khan, Patwari, Halqa Baghati-E-

Shoor, Eidgah Srinagar was demanding an amount of Rs 9,000 as bribe for issuance of revenue extracts of land in favour of complainant. On receiving complaint, prima facie offence under section 7 of Prevention of Corruption Act 1988 was found made out. Consequently, FIR No. 15/2022 was registered at P/S ACB Srinagar and investigation started, during which a team laid a successful trap and caught Jameel Hussain Khan, Patwari, Halqa Baghati-E-Shoor, Eidgah Srinagar, red-handed, while demanding and accepting bribe amount of Rs

9,000 through his accomplice identified as Shafat-ur-Rehman from complainant, he added. The official further told that Shafat-Ur-Rehman was working as Patwari in Revenue department and was trapped by ACB while accepting bribe and FIR No. 15/2009 was registered against him, after which he was convicted by lower court. "Both accused were arrested and taken into custody by ACB team. The bribe money was also recovered from their possession in presence of independent witnesses," said official adding that further investigation is going on.

No reason to worry until new COVID 'variant of concern' detected, says Jain

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: The Delhi government is keeping a watchful eye over the COVID-19 situation and there is no reason to worry until a new variant of concern is detected, Health Minister Satyendar Jain said on Monday.

Interacting with reporters here, the minister also sought to allay apprehensions over the steady rise in daily cases in Delhi and the positivity rate remaining over one per cent during the last few days.

The count of daily cases in Delhi is being reported in the range of 100-200. We are keeping an eye on hospital admissions, and that is going down. Focus shouldn't be on positivity rate much as of

now, Jain said.

Delhi reported 141 fresh Covid cases and one more death on Sunday, while the positivity rate stood at 1.29 percent, according to data shared by the city health department. The positivity report has been hovering above the one per cent-mark in the last few days.

Meanwhile, doctors cautioned on Monday that while daily cases have been rising a "sense of complacency has set in among the masses" in general especially after the mask mandate was removed.

I do not foresee any new wave as long as we remain cautious, follow all Covid-appropriate behaviours and wear masks while being outside, especially in

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Elements misusing festivals to create unnecessary dispute are anti-national: Dr Jitendra

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Elements misusing festivals to create an unnecessary dispute are anti-national, Union minister Jitendra Singh said on Monday, asserting all festivals should be observed like festivals only.

He also expressed satisfaction over the arrangements being made for the upcoming annual Amarnath Yatra in south Kashmir Himalayas and said J-K Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha is personally supervising the steps for its success.

Interacting with media persons at Pali Panchayat in Samba district, the minister, while responding to a question about attempts by certain elements to disturb



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh along with a high level Central team, visiting the venue of PM Narendra Modi's rally at Pali Panchayat Samba on Monday.

peace on the occasion of Ram Navami festival on Sunday, said the home ministry is taking care of the law and order situation and will deal with it.

However, he said, As an ordinary citizen, we should

observe any festival like a festival only instead of making it an issue of dispute some elements misusing a festival to create a dispute are anti-national. On the 43-day Amarnath Yatra which

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

'Drone technology in agricultural farming to be highlight of Panchayati Raj Diwas'

NEW DELHI: Union minister Jitendra Singh said on Monday that the use of drone technology in agriculture farming will be the highlight of Panchayati Raj Diwas to be observed later this month.

Singh, the Minister of State for Personnel led a central team to the venue of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's rally at Pali panchayat in Samba district of Jammu and Kashmir on April 24.

Speaking to the media after the visit, he said the choice of Pali panchayat as the venue of the national level Panchayati Raj Diwas event indicates the high priority given by the prime minister to Jammu and Kashmir and the government's focus to strengthen panchayati raj institutions (PRIs) in the union territory.

Living up to the spirit of Prime Minister Modi's concern for rural upliftment, Singh said the Union Ministry of Science & Technology headed by him will endeavour to showcase during Panchayati Raj Diwas, some of the latest scientific innovations which are applicable for rural development and upgraded agricultural farming but are somehow not being adequately used in this part of the country.

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9