

03 Major setback to Apni Party in Jammu; state women's president, several leaders resign

08 JKPS Kunjwani showers blessings before examination on students of class X

09 Ahead of PM's visit, five suspects nabbed in Kathua, 2 sent to Jammu for questioning

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Ramzan Mubarak



COVID: 1 new case in J&K

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir reported one fresh Covid case on Wednesday that took the infection tally to 4,53,956, officials said.

The lone case was reported from Srinagar district in Kashmir division, they said.

There are 53 active cases, while the overall recoveries have reached 4,49,152, officials said.

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Srinagar acid attack: JJB dismisses bail plea of accused juvenile

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: The Juvenile Justice Board (JJB) on Wednesday dismissed the bail plea of a minor arrested by the Jammu and Kashmir Police in connection with the acid attack on a woman here in February.

A bail application was put up and discussed before the board headed by Principal Magistrate Touseef Ahmad Magray during which the counsel for the juvenile assured that his family would provide him with the best education.

The counsel also contended that he had been wooed by main accused Sajjad Altaf

Rather to accompany him on the scooter on the fateful day of February 1 in return for new clothes.

The juvenile was held along with Rather and Mohd Saleem Kumar and the police had filed a charge sheet in three weeks besides moving a separate application before the board for treating the juvenile as an adult.

According to the amended law, a minor apprehended for a heinous crime would be treated as an adult before the law. Earlier, a juvenile could be out of a remand home after a maximum

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Man, woman found dead inside car

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
UDHAMPUR/JAMMU: The bodies of a man and a woman, both in their 20s, were found inside a car on Dhar road in Udhampur district, officials said on Wednesday.

Rahul Klotra (28) of Gora Slathia and Vimla Devi (26) of Ramgarh, who were married separately, were found inside the car in an unconscious state near Darsoo village, 20 kms from Udhampur, late Tuesday night, the officials said.

They said some people got suspicious and informed police about the car which was parked on the road for several hours.

Police broke the window panes and shifted the duo to hospital, where the doctors declared them brought dead, the officials said, adding preliminary investigations suggested that the two were having an affair and apparently died by suicide. They said the autopsy of both

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WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)

Max: 37.8°C Min: 23.4°C

Humidity

Max: 39 Min: 21

Temperature (Srinagar)

Max: 19.7°C Min: 9.6°C

Humidity

Max: 79 Min: 62

Sunset : 19:05 Hours

Sunrise : 05:57 Hours

India to introduce AYUSH Mark for traditional medicine products, AYUSH visa: Modi



PM Narendra Modi addressing Global AYUSH Investment & Innovation Summit in Gandhinagar Gujarat.

a central ministry dedicated to these alternative medicine systems.

India will soon introduce the AYUSH mark, which will give authenticity to quality AYUSH products of the country. The mark will be given to products vetted using the latest technology. This will give confidence to people of the world that they are purchasing quality

AYUSH products, Modi said. "Traditional medicine helped increase tourism in Kerala. This power is in the whole of India, in every corner of India. 'Heal in India' can become a big brand of this decade. Wellness centers based on Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha, etc., can be very popular," the prime minister said.

The special "AYUSH visa"

will help those who wish to seek traditional treatments in India, he said.

The possibilities of investment and innovation in the field of AYUSH are limitless with the country having witnessed unprecedented growth in the production of AYUSH medicines, supplements and cosmetics, the prime minister said.

"Before 2014, the AYUSH sector was less than USD 3 billion. Today it has also crossed USD 18 billion," he said.

There are also possibilities of investment and innovation in supply chain management, AYUSH-based diagnostic tools and tele-medicine, Modi said.

The Union Ministry of AYUSH has also taken steps to encourage start-up culture in the field of traditional medicine, and an incubation center developed by the All India Institute of Ayurveda was inaugurated recently,

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Civil servants have to become citizen friendly in new governance model: Dr Jitendra

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: Union Minister Jitendra Singh on Wednesday said civil servants have to become citizen friendly in the new governance model for effective delivery of services.

Inaugurating the 15th civil services day celebration at Vigyan Bhawan in the national capital, he said this is an important occasion for a "serious introspection" as to how we move forward from here to further improve the governance.

"Civil services is dedicated to common man and that is its ultimate goal. All of us say that. I think we have no option but to be citizen friendly. Because I can foresee the time when citizens are going to take up a large part of governance," said Singh, the Minister of State for Personnel.

Referring to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's mantra of maximum governance and minimum gover-



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh addressing IAS officers and civil servants after inaugurating 15th Civil Services Day celebrations at New Delhi on Wednesday.

nance, he said, "The true meaning of civil services day is dedication to the common man, and each civil servant must have steely resolve to bring significant improvements in the lives of the common people."

Speaking about the theme of the theme for civil services day 2022 "Vision India@2047 governance, bringing citizens and government closer" -- Singh said, over the years, the expectations of the common man has

increased and civil servants have to do serious introspection about their future role with a clear focus on delivery.

He said, we must focus on officers having 25 years of active service ahead and the current officers must help in their capacity building for making India a frontline nation when it celebrates its 100th year of independence in 2047.

The minister said, today, one cannot visualise India

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3 pc hike in DA of pensioners, family pensioners, employees

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The government on Wednesday announced a 3 per cent hike Dearness Allowance (DA) to pensioners and family pensioners from January 2, 2022.

As per an order issued to this effect by the General Administration Department, the new rate of DA will be 34 per cent of basic pension/family pension against existing 32 per cent.

The arrears on account of the revised DA shall be paid in cash in employees and thereafter shall form part of the pension after April.

Besides, DA involving fractions of 50 paise shall be

rounded off to the next higher rupee and fractions below 50 paise shall be ignored.

As per another order issued by Finance department, an existing rate of DA per month for employees was 31 per cent of basic pay and has been increased to 34 per cent with effect from January 1, 2022.

"The term Basic Pay in the revised pay structure means the pay drawn in the prescribed level in the Pay Matrix as 7th Pay Commission recommendations, but does not include any other type of pay like special pay etc.," reads

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HC debars MD, XEn KPDCL from withdrawing salary for 2 months

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Justice Sanjeev Kumar of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court, has debarred Managing Director (MD) and Executive Engineer (XEn) Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Ltd (KPDCL) from withdrawing their salary for two months.

The directions were passed by Justice Sanjeev Kumar in contempt proceedings that have been drawn on account of the failure of payment of the outstanding amount of Rs 22,91,083 towards a con-

tractor who has executed work years before.

The controversy dates back to 2020 with petitioner, approaching the court claiming that he was allotted a contract of painting ST Poles and that he executed the work to the satisfaction of the department, during the financial year 2018-2019.

An amount of Rs 22,91,083 had incurred on execution of the aforesaid work and the department had not disputed petitioners claim in the court.

Accordingly, the court had given six weeks time to the

department to release the billed amount to the petitioner.

On the failure of the department to release the admitted liability, the petitioner filed contempt petition and many orders came to be passed including the order dated March 22, 2022 wherein department was granted three weeks time to make payment failing which, the court had said, the Managing Director shall appear in person along with cheque so that the petitioner is paid payment in court.

However, in total disre-

gard to court orders, the payment continues to be withheld.

The Executive Engineer, instead of Managing Director, appeared before court on April 19, instantly drawing flack from the Judge.

For want of Managing Director, the court stopped short of sending Executive Engineer back. The engineer eventually got audience of the court. He sought minimum 2 months time to complete formalities of disbursement of the admitted amount in favour of the petitioner.

Four IAS, two IPS officers transferred to J&K

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Government of India on Wednesday ordered the transfer of four IAS and two IPS officers of AGMUT cadre to Jammu & Kashmir. As per an order issued by Rakesh Kumar Singh, under secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, GoI, Devansh Yadav (2016), Anushi Sudan (2017) and Minga Sherpa (2017), all three IAS officers of AGMUT cadre, have been transferred from Arunachal Pradesh while Rashmi Singh (2007) has been transferred from Delhi to J&K. The two IPS officers Umesh Kumar (2009) and Sanjeev Kumar Yadav have been transferred from Delhi to J&K, the order added.

Due to supreme sacrifice of great Sikh Gurus we are free country today: Amit Shah



Union Home Minister Amit Shah speaking during a programme to mark 400th Parkash Purab of Guru Teg Bahadur.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: The Union Home Minister, Amit Shah participated in the first day

of celebration of the 400th Parkash Purab of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji at the Red Fort on Wednesday. The pro-

gramme has been organized by the Ministry of Culture in collaboration with the Delhi Sikh Gurdwara Management Committee (DSGMC). The Union Minister of Culture, Tourism and DoNER G. Kishan Reddy, MoS Culture, Arjun Ram Meghwal, MoS Culture Meenakshi Lekhi, representatives of DSGMC and other eminent Sikh organisations were also present on the occasion. The programme has been organized under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM).

During the event, ragis and children from different

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J&K Bank gets latest ISO 27001:2013 Certification with enhanced scope, level

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: In a major boost to its information and cyber security system, J&K Bank has received the latest certification of prestigious ISO 27001:2013 from Intertek - a reputed London-based Total Quality Assurance provider - for being compliant with the best industry standards in terms of privacy and security protocols.

While commending the Bank's Information Security Department for achieving successful and value-added re-certification, MD & CEO, Baldev Prakash on

Wednesday said, "By extending the scope of ISO 27001:2013 Certification for Information Security Management Services (ISMS) across IT domain of Bank and re-certifying with Capability Maturity Model Integration (CMMI) level of 4 out of 5, we have ensured customer data privacy while significantly augmenting security of operations across our IT-enabled domains."

"Besides demonstrating our strict adherence to the globally recognized ISMS standards, we have also initiated a process comprising of various measures to ensure

Bank's compliance with all the regulatory requirements and enhancing the availability, functionality and performance of digital services", he added.

Pertinently, the Bank's secure technology practices have got ISO 27001:2013 re-certification for next 3 Years from the UK accredited company Intertek that tests, inspects and certifies the quality and safety of products, processes and systems within the contemporary international framework of Information Security Management System.

Fraudster arrested for cheating army personnel, cash Rs 1,50,800 recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
AKHNOOR: Police on Wednesday arrested a fraudster for cheating army personnel and recovered cash Rs. 1,50,800.

As per the details, a complaint was lodged at Police Station Akhnoor by one person working as casual labour under army and posted in Akhnoor stating that some unknown person has debited Rs 1,50,800 from his bank account. On this case FIR No 107/2022 under section 420/IPC was registered and investigation started. After this, a team of Police Station Akhnoor under the supervision of SDPO Akhnoor Varun Jandial led by SHO Akhnoor Insprr Hilal Azhar assisted by PSI Manoj Kumar did stren-

uous efforts and with the help of technical assistance got the details that the money was sent to some Paytm account. On getting details of the concerned account, police team finally rounded up a suspect later identified as Raman Kumar, son of Shiv Dayal, resident of Melu R.S Pura Distt Jammu. During intensive questioning, accused confessed his involvement in the above case and on his disclosure cash Rs 1,50,800 was recovered from his possession. The accused also revealed that he was an operator in Common Service Centre (CSC) and when the victim approached him at CSC for applying for driving licence, he took the details of victim debit card which

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Jammu, Srinagar airport to have night parking facility for planes from today



■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Night flight operations will begin at Srinagar and Jammu airports, which have received authorisation from the authority for night parking facilities. According to officials at both airports, 'Go Airlines' will park two A-320 NEO aircraft each in Jammu and Srinagar.

"This is to ensure that late night and early morning take-offs are hassle-free. It is for the first time that these airports will have night parking facilities for aircraft." G8 flight number 1019 will leave Delhi at 6.30 p.m. and arrive at Jammu airport at 8 p.m. Likewise, G8 flight 1020

will leave Jammu airport at 7.30 a.m. and arrive in Delhi at 9 a.m.

Similarly, G8 flight number 5011 will leave Delhi at 7.05 p.m. and arrive at Srinagar airport at 8.35 p.m. G8 flight number 5022 will leave Srinagar airport at 7 a.m. and arrive at Delhi airport at 8.35 a.m.

Soldier among 3 die in separate road accidents in J&K

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
BANIHAL/JAMMU: Three people, including an army personnel, were killed and two others injured in separate road accidents in Samba, Ramban and Rajouri districts of Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday, officials said.

The army jawan, Manpreet Singh (25) of Kathua, died after his private vehicle skidded off the road and fell down from a bridge near Veer Bhoomi Park in Samba district, the officials said.

They said the soldier was posted in Srinagar and was on leave since March 26. He was on his way to Jammu from his Kathua residence when the accident took place.

In a separate incident, a trucker was killed when his vehicle rolled down into a deep gorge on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway near Khooni Nalla in Ramban district, the officials said, adding the body of the deceased was recovered by police and civilian volunteers and is being identified. In another incident, Shazia Akhtar (27) of Budhal was killed and her relatives Mohammad Ikhtlaq and his wife Nazia Kousar were injured when their private car plunged into a gorge at Tralla Rehan on Rajouri-Kotranka road in Rajouri district, the officials said. They said the injured were shifted to a hospital and their condition was stated to be serious.