Regd. No. L-29/JK-346/22-24 Jawan injured in Pulwama

Jammuites hold massive protests against frequent power cuts, block several roads

Schools must act as sports-schools to fetch Olympic medals: JKPS Principal



GoI allocates 207 MW additional power to J&K Centre approves Rs 4,526.12 Cr investment Order to come into effect from midnight; additional supply by today

Availability of power to increase substantially: Nitishwar Kumar

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In order to meet the increasing electricity demand in Jammu & Kashmir. $_{
m the}$ Government has allocated 207 MW additional Power to the Union Territory.

Principal Secretary, to the Lt Governor & PDD, Nitishwar Kumar said that the order issued by the Union Ministry of Power will substantially increase the availability of power in J&K.

Pertinently, the Union Government has allocated additional power from the unallocated quota of Central Generating Stations of Northern Region Pool to Jammu & Kashmir.

The order in this regard will come into the effect from midnight and the UT is expected to receive the additional supply by tomorrow.

J&K's Power Development Department is also making dedicated efforts on all fronts to meet the rising demand for the power supply in the UT, exploring practical and viable solutions to address the needs of the end consumers.

It was informed that, between 1st to 25th April, the Development Department allocated additional Rs.52 Crore to purchase power from the open market, also known as Energy Exchange, however, due to increased number of bidding, electricity worth only Rs.10.41 Crore could only be supplied to the Union Territory of J&K.

Owing to the early onset of summer and an unprecedented heatwave in the month of March and April, experienced for the first time in the last 122 years and 50 years respectively, the Power Development Department took the decision to place maximum bid at the energy exchange to meet the shortfall amidst the surging power demand. Eventually, the additional allocation was made in

Department is also ensuring optimal output from available power sources. However, it is pertinent to mention that thermal plants account for 70% of the country's power generation capacity. Thermal and Hydropower contribute 50%-50% to meeting the demand of the Union Territory J&K. ofHydropower plants operate at reduced capacity during the month of March and April

The Power Development

only in the month of May. In April 2021, the power demand for Jammu division was 830 MW per day. The demand has increased to 900 MW this year. The Power Development Department is using all its resources including purchases from the Energy Exchange to ensure 770 MW, which is being supplied to the people of Jammu

due to the accumulation of

snow which starts melting

power units have been supplied in comparison to the same period in 2021. The PDD officials are bidding at the Energy Exchange on an hourly basis to ensure that even this gap is bridged.

In the light of the increasing power demand in Jammu and Kashmir Division, Nitishwar Kumar is reviewing the position of power availability on an hourly basis.

A meeting was also held earlier today in which senior officials of PDD and Engineers were present. It was noted that as compared to April 2021, energy consumption this year for the same period has increased.

After detailed deliberations in the meeting, Nitishwar Kumar directed the deployment of middle management level officers at grid stations to monitor the power schedule. It was advised that the area-wise curtailment schedule be communicated to the public using all available plat-

for Kwar hydro-power project in J&K

The project will be imple-

Air surcharge 50 paisa for Leh

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The govern-Wednesday approved a proposal to invest Rs 4,526.12 crore for constructing the 540 MW Kwar hydroelectric project in Jammu & Kashmir.

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, cleared the investment proposal for the project located on Chenab river in Kishtwar district of the

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Special Judge

CBI R K Wattal rejected bail

application of Station House

Officer (SHO) of Loran

police Station, namely Ved

Prakash, who was caught

red-handed while accepting

Rs 10,000 as bribe from the

complainant.

mented by Chenab Valley Power Projects Private Ltd (CVPPL), a joint venture company between NHPC and JKSPDC, with equity contribution of 51 per cent and 49 per cent respectively, according to an official state-

The project shall generate 1,975.54 million units of power in a 90 per cent dependable year.

Briefing the media, Union

Adv Sunil Sethi for the appli-

cant whereas Special PP

Manmohan Sharma for CBI,

while rejecting the bail appli-

cation observed that in view

seriousness of crime and its

compulsive nature when the

complainant, also a police

personnel, who was not will-

ing to give bribe is alleged to

CBI court denies bail to SHO

Loran in bribery case

Anurag Thakur said the Cabinet has "approved construction of 540 Megawatt Kwar Hydro Electric project at a cost of Rs 4,526.12 crore". The Centre will extend a

grant of Rs 69.80 crore towards cost of enabling infrastructure and also support the Union Territory by providing grant of Rs 655.08 crore for equity contribution of JKSPDC (49 per cent)

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Dr Farooq Lone appointed **Interim Chairman JKPSC**

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Dr Farooq Ahmad Lone, IAS (Retd), Member of the Jammu and Kashmir Public Service Commission, was on Wednesday appointed interim Chairman of the Commission.

"In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 93 of the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization Act,

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

COVID cases STATE TIMES NEWS

J&K logs 8 new

04:15 (APRIL 29)

IFTAAR TIME: 07:13 (APRIL 28)

6 encounter

Ramzan Mubarak

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir reported eight new COVID-19

tion tally to 4,54,021, officials said. Of the new cases, three were from Jammu district and two each from Srinagar

Wednesday, taking the infec-

and Budgam, they said. There are 58 active cases of COVID-19 in the

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Army-run school stokes Hijab controversy in Kashmir; mainstream leaders react

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: An Army-run school in Baramulla district has stoked a controversy by asking its staff to avoid wearing hijab during school hours, prompting criticism by the mainstream political parties.

25, the principal of the Dagger Parivar School Baramulla, a school set up under the aegis of the Army and the Indrani Balan Foundation, asked the teachers to avoid wearing hijab during school hours "so that students can feel comfortable and are forthcoming to interact with teachers and staff".

Mughal road reopens

for one-way traffic

JAMMU: The historic

Mughal road, connecting the

twin districts of Rajouri and

Poonch in the Jammu region

with south Kashmir's

Shopian district, was

reopened for one-way vehicu-

lar traffic on Wednesday

after remaining closed for

over four months due to

heavy snowfall during the

A traffic department offi-

Omar welcomes SC

decision to list petitions

on Art 370 for hearing

Conference (NC) leader

Wednesday welcomed the

Supreme Court's announcement that petitions regard-

ing the abrogation of Article

370 of the Constitution

would be listed after the

summer vacation

Abdullah

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR:

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

National

winter, officials said.

cial said the traffic on

STATE TIMES NEWS

The April 25-dated circular social media. In a circular dated April Efforts to seek comments

ment, including the principal, did not materialise. Former chief minister and PDP president Mehbooba

diktat.

may be ruled by BJP but

However, on Wednesday, the school issued an amended version of the circular, replacing the word hijab

was been widely shared on

(head cover) with niqab' (face

from the school manage-

Mufti strongly condemned "I condemn this letter issu-

ing diktats on hijab. J&K

STATE TIMES NEWS

Limited

JSW

and

Hospitals became the first

major corporations to buy

land in Jammu and Kashmir

after the scrapping of Article

370 in 2019 to set up their

While JSW steel limited is

all set to come up with its Rs

150 crore project in south

Kashmir's Pulwama district,

Apollo Hospitals will set up

its medicare facility in

Jammu district, officials

"The possession of 70

kanals of land (8.75 acres)

has already been handed over

units in the region.

Apollo

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Special Judge CBI R K Between, 1st to 26th April March to ensure maximum of this year, only 6.17% less BSF launches intensive drive to detect possible cross-border tunnels from Pakistan: Officials

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Following the recent detection and killings of two Jaish-e-Mohammed's suicide bombers, who infiltrated the country from Pakistan, the Border Security Force has launched a massive drive to detect cross-border tunnels along the International Border in the Jammu sector.

The BSF said it is alive to the threat posed by the enemy forces and antinational elements and is maintaining robust domination and surveillance to keep the borders and the people of the country safe.

Apollo hospital to come up in Jammu; JSW Steel

to set-up Rs 150 cr steel plant in Pulwama

to JSW Steel Limited in

Pulwama's Lassipora indus-

trial area to set up a Rs 150-

crore steel plant," a senior

Apollo Hospitals is setting

up a 250-bed super speciality

hospital in the Jammu

The administration has

already earmarked 100

kanals (12.5 acres) at

Jammu's Miran Sahib for a

medi-city, which will accom-

modate the country's top

health sector corporates to

invest here, the official noted.

coming up on 368 kanals (46

acres) in Sempora in

In Kashmir, Medi-city is

official said.

region, he added.



BSF men during massive drive to detect cross-border tunnels along IB in Samba sector.

Two heavily-armed JeM terrorists, wearing suicide vests, were eliminated in a fierce gunfight by security forces after they attacked a

Pulwama district as many

groups have also shown equal

interest to invest in the medi-

The Administrative Council

had approved the transfer of

land measuring 750 Kanals

in favour of the Industries

and Commerce Department

The operationalisation of

the Medicity will bring the

world-class healthcare infra-

structure and facilities to the

region, besides providing

employment opportunities to

the medical and pharma pro-

fessionals, local pharmacists

and vendors, SAC

for setting up Medicity.

city, the officials said.

carrying Industrial Security Force personnel in the Sunjwan area on the outskirts of Jammu on April 22 and

Gap between 2nd dose of

COVID jab, precaution dose to

be reduced to 6 months soon

NEW DELHI: The govern-

ment is likely to soon reduce

the gap between the second

dose of COVID-19 vaccine

and the precaution dose

from the current nine

months to six months, offi-

cial sources said on

A recommendation on less-

ening the gap is expected to

be made by the National

Technical Advisory Group on

Immunisation (NTAGI)

which is set to hold a meeting

Studies at ICMR and other

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

international research insti-

tutions have suggested

on April 29, they told PTI.

Wednesday.

STATE TIMES NEWS

killed an assistant sub-Nine security personnel,

including two policemen, were also injured in the gunfight which ensued amid the heightened security two days ahead of the scheduled visit of Prime Minister Narendra

The subsequent investigation led to the arrest of three conspirators, including a truck driver and his helper, who had transported the Pashtu-speaking terrorists from the Sapwal border in Samba district to Jammu in the middle of the night a

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Border population India's first line of defence: BSF IG at LoC

STATE TIMES NEWS

have been harassed

SRINAGAR: The BSF on Wednesday distributed seeds and agricultural equipment to the farmers of Keran village along the Line of Control (LoC) in Kupwara district as part of the events being held in the country to celebrate 75 years of independence.

Raja Babu Inspector General (IG) of the border force in Kashmir, visited the village as part of a day-long tour of the area along with agriculture department officials, a senior officer

Singh interacted with the

locals and chaired an event where seeds and agricultural equipment were distributed to the farmers of the area as part of the 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations, he said.

IG Singh addressed the villagers and called them the "first line of defence and sentinels of the fron-

He said the Border Security Force cares for the border population and it aims to win their hearts and minds.

Keran village is on the banks of the Kishanganga river and there are about 18 villages in this bowl.

Modi flags higher tax on fuel in opposition-ruled states

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Flagging higher fuel prices in many opposition-ruled states, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday called it "injustice" to people

living there and urged the governments there to reduce VAT in "national interest" to benefit the common

Modi raised the issue of many states not adhering to the Centre's call for reducing the Value Added Tax (VAT) on petrol and diesel after his government slashed excise

duties on them in November last, and asked them to work

in the spirit of cooperative

federalism in this time of global crisis. Higher prices in some states were also harmful for neighbouring states, he added.

focussed a big part of his concluding remarks in his meeting with chief ministers to review the

COVID-19 situation on the issue of rise in fuel prices which have been a matter of public debate and a cause behind the surge in inflation. Boosting cooper-

ative federalism is

necessary for strengthening Indian economy in the global scenario impacted by the war, he said, in an apparent reference to the Russian attack

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Crime Branch verifying signatures of Anita Sharma

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Crime Branch

wing of Jammu and Kashmir Police is investigating the signatures of Anita Sharma, wife of Shiv Kumar Sharma, resident of 23-B/C,

Block (Pvt) Gandhi Nagar. Shiv Kumar Sharma applied fraudulently vide application no: 2890 on December 28, 2019 whereas she had already sold the house to one Shaguna Gupta, wife of Rakesh Gupta vide two sales

deeds executed on December

26, 2015 and September 28,

2018 respectively and had no right over the said building in

It has been alleged that Anita Sharma manipulated the signature on the application by scanned signature instead

of pen. The enquiry in the matter revealed that this fraud has been committed to befool the Jammu

build a house illegally at plot no: 44 D/C Gandhi Nagar which has been purchased by Anita Sharma for Rs 6

the notice of JMC, they issued notice under section 7(1)8(1) on May 28, 2021, and to which Anita Sharma approached the Tribunal and



Anita Sharma & Shiv Kumar Sharma

ing ground floor and first floor were constructed illegally, the JMC perhaps to favour Anita Sharma raised

objection only for one room and setback

Later, when the honest JMC Commissioner Avny Lavasa came to know about violations in the case, she constituted a committee to look into the matter, which reported that ground floor and first floor is new construction. After the purchase of land, Anita Sharma erased the old building to ground and constructed the

whileas the challan was only for one room and setback . Surprisingly even after the confirmation by the inquiry committee that ground floor and first floor are new construction, the whole department is keeping a criminal silence and no action has action has been taken against Khilafwarzi officer, for the violations of whole building instead of minor violation as mentioned in earlier notice by

A municipal official on the condition of anonymity said that Anita Sharma and her husband Shiv Kumar Sharma are chronic offenders and habitual of violating municipal laws and disclosed that Shiv Kumar Sharma has constructed another building at 313-A Apsara Road, Jammu where no honour has been shown towards setbacks and no municipal

10 JKAS officers transferred

STATE TIMES NEWS JAMMU: The Government

on Wednesday transferred ten JKAS officers.

According to the order

issued by Manoj Kumar Dwivedi, Principal Secretary, General Administration Department (GAD), Akhtar Hussain Qazi, JKAS, Assistant Commissioner Kishtwar has been transferred and posted as Deputy District Election Officer, Doda; Rishi Kumar Sharma, JKAS, Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Assar, Doda as Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Padder, Kishtwar. He shall also hold the charge of the post of Sub-Registrar.

Padder in addition to his own

duties. Varunjeet Charak,

JKAS, Sub-Divisional **■ CONTD ON PAGE 9**





Max: 28.1°C

Max: 66 Min: 31 Sunset: 19:10 Hours Sunrise: 05:50 Hours



Municipal Corporation to When the matter came to

stay was granted by the Court to maintain status quo. It is surprising that though the whole building compris-

new building illegally,

been taken so far on the report of committee and no

laws have been observed.

The official further added that our department seems to be on the payroll so no action had been and is being taken against these habitual offenders of municipal laws.