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Ramzan Mubarak



**Govt appoints acid attack victim as Standing Counsel for Distt Srinagar**

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

**SRINAGAR:** The Government on Thursday appointed Advocate, Shehar Nazir, an acid attack victim, as Standing Counsel for District Srinagar.

An order vide No. 2156-JK (LD) of 2022 issued by Department of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, in this regard reads,

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**Govt reinstates IAS officer Shah Faesal**

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

**NEW DELHI:** The government has accepted IAS officer Shah Faesal's application for withdrawing his resignation and reinstated him in service and his next posting would be announced soon, Home Ministry officials said here on Thursday.



Faesal, who submitted his resignation in January 2019 and floated the Jammu and Kashmir People's Movement (JKPM) party, was detained under the stringent Public Safety Act immediately after the abrogation of special status of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir.

However, after his release,

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

**NEW DELHI:** A Delimitation Commission, mandated to redraw the assembly constituencies of Jammu and Kashmir, is set to submit its report to the government next week, sources said on Thursday.

The panel would also make public its "award" detailing the number of constituencies and their size by bringing out a gazettee notification after the report is submitted to the government, the sources said.

While the report will be a much detailed document, the award will deal with basic details such as number of constituencies and their size, they pointed out.

The commission has proposed increasing the number of seats in the union territory from 83 to 90. Besides, there are 24 seats in Pakistan Occupied Kashmir (PoK) which continue to remain vacant.

For the first time, nine

seats have been proposed for Scheduled Tribes.

The panel has also proposed six additional seats for Jammu and one for Kashmir. As of now, the Kashmir division has 46 seats and Jammu division 37.

The last delimitation panel took seven years to give its award in 1995 while this commission took little over two years to complete its task despite the coronavirus pandemic, a functionary pointed out.

Formed in March 2020, the panel was granted a one-year extension last year.

Headed by former Supreme Court judge Ranjana Prakash Desai, it has Chief Election Commissioner Sushil Chandra and the State Election Commissioner of Jammu and Kashmir as its ex-officio members.

In February, it was given a two-month extension to complete its task. Its term was to otherwise end on March 6.

The Delimitation

Commission had forwarded preliminary report to Associate Members including Union Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) Dr Jitendra Singh and Jugal Kishore Sharma, both Lok Sabha MPs from Jammu division and Dr Farooq Abdullah, Mohammad Akbar Lone and Hasnain Masoodi, all three National Conference MPs from Kashmir valley on February 5 this year. It had put its proposals on 90 Assembly constituencies and five parliamentary constituencies of Jammu and Kashmir union territory (UT) in public domain on March 14. Around 400 suggestions and representations with 4000 signatories were received by the commission till March 21, in wake of which the two day personal hearing sessions were held in Jammu and Srinagar.

During the public sittings, the main points of all the

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**PM Modi to inaugurate Global Patidar Business Summit today**

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

**NEW DELHI:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the Global Patidar Business Summit on Friday through video conferencing, the PMO said.

Sardardham, an organisation of Patidars, a numerically strong caste in Gujarat, is organizing the summit under "Mission 2026" to provide an impetus to the socio-economic development of

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**Bishnah blast site; Police collects samples**

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

**JAMMU:** Police have collected samples from Sunday's suspected blast site in Bishnah on the outskirts of the city and sent them to a forensic laboratory for analysis, officials said on Thursday.

A suspected blast took place in an open field in Lalian village of Bishnah town, about 17 kilometres away from the venue of Prime Minister

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**Two terrorists responsible for terror attacks on outside labourers in Pulwama killed**  
**62 ultras killed so far this year in Kashmir**

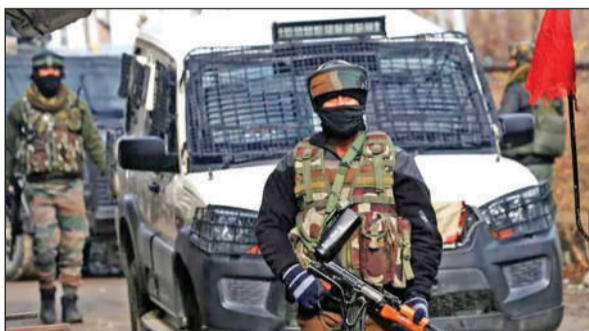
■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

**SRINAGAR:** Two local terrorists, linked with proscribed terror outfit Al-Badr, and involved in series of recent terror attacks on outside labourers in Pulwama, were on Thursday killed in an encounter with police and security forces in village Mitrigam.

The neutralized terrorists have been identified as Aijaz Hafiz of Dalipora and Shahid Ayub of Dheeri Murran and their bodies were retrieved from the site of encounter.

According to officials, Pulwama Police got specific information regarding presence of terrorists in village Mitrigam area of Pulwama and a joint cordon and search operation was launched by Police, Army (44RR) and CRPF in the said area.

During the search operation, as the joint search party proceeded towards suspected



spot the hiding terrorists fired indiscriminately upon search party which was retaliated leading to an encounter.

In the initial exchange of fire, one security force personnel received gunshot injuries. He was immediately evacuated to hospital for treatment of his injuries. However, the operation was halted to ensure safe evacuation of all the civilians trapped around the encounter site. Moreover, all due precautions were also taken to avoid any collateral damage.

After evacuation of civilians was done, the operation was resumed. In the ensuing operation, the two terrorists were eliminated.

As per police records both the killed terrorists were categorized terrorists and part of groups involved in a series of terror crimes including attacks on police and security forces besides civilian atrocities.

Terrorist Aijaz Ahmad Hafiz was involved in firing upon outside labourers namely Sonu Sharma,

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**Major terror strike averted; IED recovered in Sidhra area**  
**Three terrorist associates arrested in Kupwara**

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

**JAMMU/SRINAGAR:** Averting a major terror strike, police on Thursday recovered an Improvised Explosive Device (IED), planted along highway near Sidhra area on the outskirts of Jammu City by suspected terrorists. The IED was defused by experts, officials said.

A police team reached the spot following information regarding a suspicious object found alongside the highway in the Sidhra area.

A police spokesperson said an explosive device was found there. The site was cordoned off and the device was



Security forces on National Highway near Sidhra where IED was detected on Thursday.

destroyed through a controlled mechanism by the bomb squad.

An investigation into the matter was underway, the spokesperson said.

The recovery of the IED came days after two Pakistani terrorists of the Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) were killed in an encounter with security forces in

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**India's peak power supply touches record level of 204GW**

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

**NEW DELHI:** India's peak power demand met or the highest supply in a day touched the all-time high of 204.65 GW on Thursday amid ongoing heatwave sweeping through vast swathes of the country increasing demand for electricity.

"During the current month of April, 2022 (Up to 28th April, till 14:50 Hours), peak power demand met has increased by 12.1 per cent to 204.653 GW from 182.559 GW during same period previous year," a source said. On Tuesday, the maximum

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**Misappropriation of transport subsidy: ACB produces charge-sheets against GMs of DIC, others**

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

**JAMMU:** The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) has produced a charge-sheet against General Managers of DIC Kupwara Abdul Hamid Bhat, Fayaz Ahmed Shafie, Mohd Ashraf Janwari and others in misappropriation of transport subsidy case in the Anti Corruption Court Baramulla.

As per an official spokesperson, "ACB produced charge-sheet in FIR No 07/2008 under investigation with Police Station ACB Central, J&K, Jammu against accused public servants namely (1) Abdul

Hamid Bhat, the then GM DIC Kupwara, (2) Fayaz Ahmed Shafie, the then GM DIC Kupwara, (3) Mohd Ashraf Janwari, the then GM DIC Kupwara, (4) Masood Karim, the then Manager Development DIC Kupwara, (5) Abdul Gani Kirmani, IPO DIC Kupwara, (6) Abdul Ahad Khan (expired), the then IPO DIC Kupwara, (7) Ghulam Nabi Mir, the then Block Investigator DIC Kupwara, (8) Zahoor Ahmad Shah, the then Manager Accounts J&K Bank Barzulla, (9) Aijaz Ahmad Kitab, the then Manager

Accounts J&K Bank Solina, (10) Feroz Ahmed Lone, (11) Abdul Karim Lone (expired), (12) Mohd Maqbool Unit Holders, (13) Abdul Quyyom Lone (expired) in the Court of Special Judge Anti Corruption, Baramulla."

Giving details, the official said that instant case was registered on the outcome of verification conducted by the then Vigilance Organisation Kashmir into the allegations pertaining to misappropriation of transport subsidy by officials of District Industrial Centre Kupwara in

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**No change in India's approach on Pakistan: MEA**

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

**NEW DELHI:** Over a fortnight after Shehbaz Sharif became Pakistan's new prime minister, India on Thursday asserted there is no change to its approach that talks between the two sides can only take place in an atmosphere free of terror and insisted that the onus is on Islamabad to create such an environment.

External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Arindam Bagchi also said that the terror attack in Karachi only underlined the need for all countries to take an "undifferentiated" position against terrorism.

"Our stance against all forms of terrorism anywhere has been steadfast and consistent. We have been con-



demning (them). This particular incident only underlines the need for all countries to take an undifferentiated position against terrorism," he said at a weekly media briefing.

Bagchi was replying to a question.

Three Chinese language teachers and their local

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**Nine PHE XEens, AEEs transferred**

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

**JAMMU:** The government on Thursday transferred nine Assistant Executive Engineer (AEEs) (Civil/ Mech.) of Jal Shakti Department.

According to the order issued by M. Raju, Commissioner/ Secretary, Jal Shakti Department, Vivek Kohli, Executive Engineer (Civil), awaiting orders of adjustment has been posted at PHE Rural Division Jammu; Mueed Rasool, I/C AEE (Civil), awaiting orders of adjustment, at PHE Sub-Division Pattan; Rajan Bakshi, I/C AEE (Mech.), PHE Mech. Division Rajouri (PHE Rajouri Sub Division) has been posted at PHE Mech. North Division Jammu (PHE (M) Sub Division Sitlee); Aijaz Ahmad Botu, I/C

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**114 J&K Police Inspectors promoted as DySPs**

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

**JAMMU:** The government on Thursday promoted 114 Inspectors as Deputy Superintendent of Police (DySPs).

"Sanction is accorded to the placement of the 114 Inspectors as Deputy Superintendent of Police, on stop gap basis, in their own pay and grade," reads and order issued by R.K Goyal, Financial Commissioner/ Additional Chief Secretary Home Department.

As per order, the Inspectors, who have been placed as Deputy Superintendent of Police include Daljit Singh, Kuldeep Handoo, Akshay

Khajouira, Sajad Hussain, Anil Sagar, Farooq Ahmad, Mujahid Nazir, Ab. Hamid, Sunil Kumar, Jatinder Singh, Jagpal Sharma, Ashok Kumar, Sushil Kumar, Mehmood Qadir, Sunil Singh, Jignat Dorje, Sartaj Ahmad, Sarajeet Singh, Taran Singh, Satvir Singh, Bhagwan Dass, Vishal Manhas, Mohd Abass, Sheikh Firdous, Pankaj Kumar, Sukhvir Singh, Barkat Hussain, Vishal Sharma, Manjeet Singh, Pawan Sharma, Sharat Chander Singh, Parladh Kumar, Khurshid Ahmad, Naveed Ahmad Shah, Krishan Rattan, Surinder Paul Singh, Shankar

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**Authorities not to allow Shab-e-Qadr, Jumat-ul-Vida prayers at Srinagar's Jamia Masjid**

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

**SRINAGAR:** Authorities in Kashmir have decided not to allow Shab-e-Qadr' and Jumat-ul-Vida' congregational prayers at the historic Jamia Masjid here, a move denounced by mainstream and separatist parties.

The decision to not hold the congregational prayers was conveyed to the Anjuman Aunaf Jamia Masjid -- the managing body of the grand mosque on Wednesday night.

The government and police officials headed by a magistrate visited the Jamia Masjid premises after iftar and conveyed to the Aunaf members that authorities have decided not to allow Jumat-ul-Vida congregational prayers to be held in Jamia

Masjid on the last Friday of Ramadhan, as well as no prayers or Shab (night-long prayers) to be allowed on Shab-e-Qadr at the historic mosque, a statement issued by the Aunaf said.

It said the managing body strongly denounces this decision of the authorities.

The People's Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD) urged the administration to reconsider its decision forthwith and allow the people to offer the prayers.

He said Jamia Masjid is a historic place and people have deep devotion with it. Such moves tantamount to hurting the religious sentiments of the people, he said. Hurriyat Conference led by Mirwaiz Umar Farooq also denounced the repeated closure of th Jamia Masjid.

offering the congregational prayers inside the historic mosque, alliance spokesperson M Y Tarigami said.

Since it amounts to direct interference in the people's religious matters, the move is unacceptable and reprehensible, he said.

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Not allowing congregational prayers on the occasion of Jumat-ul-Vida at the central Jamia mosque of the valley, which is thronged by lakhs of valley's Muslims on this blessed day -- when offering prayers at Jamia Masjid has greater blessings, is outrageous, and against the fundamental human right to religious practice, the Hurriyat said in a statement.

The separatist amalgam said the same holds true for barring people from praying at the Jamia Masjid on the occasion of Shab-e-Qadr.

Such orders against Muslims and circulars being issued by authorities in a valley school asking the staff members not to wear

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**WEATHER**

Temperature (Jammu)

Max: 41.0°C Min: 23.9°C

Humidity

Max : 42 Min : 19

Temperature (Srinagar)

Max: 27.6°C Min: 12.2°C

Humidity

Max : 57 Min: 42

Sunset : 19:10 Hours

Sunrise : 05:49 Hours