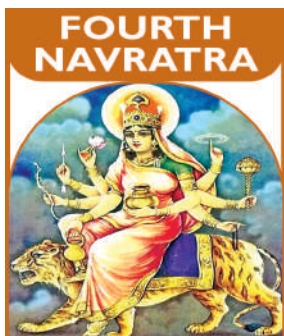


03 Pro-freedom speeches of Dr Farooq Abdullah: DM Srinagar granted final opportunity to file affidavit

09 109 bovines rescued, 8 smugglers nabbed

10 JKIIANS return back to school

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



FOURTH NAVRATRA

Maa Kushmanda
Kushmanda is the fourth incarnation of Maa Durga and worshipped on fourth Navratra. Maa Kushmanda is said to be the creator of the universe. Her presence is 'Surya Manda' by virtue of which rays of light enlighten the universe. She has eight hands and hence, also called 'Maa Ashtbhuj'. In her seven hands, she has Kamandal, Bow, Lotus, Amrit Kalash, Chakra and Gadha. Eighth hand has string of beads having all the 'Sidhis' and 'Nidhis'. Lion is the ride of Maa Kushmanda.

"Om Hareng Kleeng Bhagwati Kushmande Mam Sarvam Kaamnaay Pooray Pooray Thaa Thaa Swaha"

ॐ ह्रीं क्लीं भगवती कूष्मंडि मम सर्वम् कामनाय पूर्य पूर्य ठा ठा स्वाहा

Ramzan Mubarak



RS proceedings washed out, opposition walkout in LS over price rise

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: Rajya Sabha proceedings were a washout on Monday as a united opposition protested pressing for a discussion on rising prices of fuel and essential commodities.

Opposition members also staged a walkout in the Lok Sabha with several of them raising the issue during Zero Hour.

In the Upper House of Parliament, Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu did not allow adjournment notices moved by opposition members on the issue of price rise, prompting members of the Congress, TMC, left parties, DMK, AAP, NCP, RJD and Shiv Sena to create an uproar.

The Rajya Sabha was adjourned twice during the pre-lunch period and was adjourned soon after it met after lunch.

Soon after the laying of papers, Naidu said he had received notices from several members under Rule 267 to discuss issues of price rise, including prices of petrol, diesel, and LPG, and said the issue has already been discussed during the debate on the Finance Bill and

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 35.8°C Min: 20.2°C

Humidity
Max: 47 Min: 20

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 26.2°C Min: 9.2°C

Humidity
Max: 55 Min: 27

Sunset : 18:54 Hours
Sunrise : 06:17 Hours

Delimitation Commission begins 2-day interaction with public, political leaders



Members of Delimitation Commission during first day of public sittings in Jammu on Monday.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Delimitation Commission, which has been tasked to redraw the boundaries of assembly and parliamentary constituencies in Jammu and Kashmir, on Monday began its two-day long meetings with public and civil society for receiving suggestions and objections on its draft delimitation proposal for the union territory.

The Commission on March 14 has put its report in the public domain and invited objections and suggestions

from people. The commission has published its report in the gazettes of India as well as Jammu and Kashmir.

The commission has begun meetings at the Convention Centre here with members of the public, civil society and political parties from all districts of the Jammu region, while a similar public sitting will be held at SKIOC in Srinagar on Tuesday, officials said.

It has met 20 such delegations and members of the public from Ramban,

Rajouri, Poonch, Kishtwar, Kathua and Doda districts and heard them and received their representations, the officials said.

The members of the public and elected representatives raised various demands in terms of carving out new segments of assemblies and also raised objections about the draft in which various areas have been merged with other areas of assembly and parliamentary constituencies.

The people from Kathua, Udhampur, Doda, Ramban,

Kishtwar, Rajouri and Poonch districts are currently participating in the public sittings from 10.00 am while the people from Reasi, Samba and Jammu will participate in the second half-sittings at the Convention Centre from 2.00 pm, they said.

The official said that the people from Srinagar, Budgam, Anantnag, Kulgam, Pulwama and Shopian will be part of the public sittings at SKIOC in the first half on April 5 while the people from Ganderbal, Bandipora, Kupwara and Baramulla will participate in the second half on the same day at the same venue in Srinagar.

Delimitation Commission, comprising Justice (retired) Ranjana Prakash Desai as chairperson, the Chief Election Commissioner Sushil Chandra and State Election Commissioner (SEC) K K Sharma as

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

CRPF Jawan martyred; 2 labourers, KP injured in stepped up terror attacks in Kashmir

Political parties widely condemn Srinagar terror attack

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Terrorists carried out three attacks in the Kashmir Valley on Monday, in which one CRPF personnel was martyred and four persons, including two workers from Bihar and a Kashmiri Pandit, injured, officials said.

Two CRPF personnel were injured when terrorists opened fire on security forces at Maisuma. They were rushed to SMHS hospital where one of them -- Head Constable Vishal Kumar -- succumbed to injuries while the other was undergoing treatment.

The area was cordoned off as security forces launched a search operation to track down the assailants but no arrests were made.

35-year-old Bal Krishan alias Sonu, a Kashmiri Pandit, was shot at and injured by suspected terrorists at Chotigam in Shopian district late evening, officials said, adding he was taken to



Terrorist killed as Army foils infiltration bid along LoC in Rajouri

RAJOURI: A terrorist was killed when the Army foiled an infiltration attempt along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district, officials said on Monday. Army troops guarding the border picked up a suspected movement along the LoC in the Nowshera area late Sunday night, they said.

The intruder was challenged leading to a fire-fight, the officials said.

Later, the body of a terrorist, along with arms and ammunition, was recovered, they said.

district hospital Shopian.

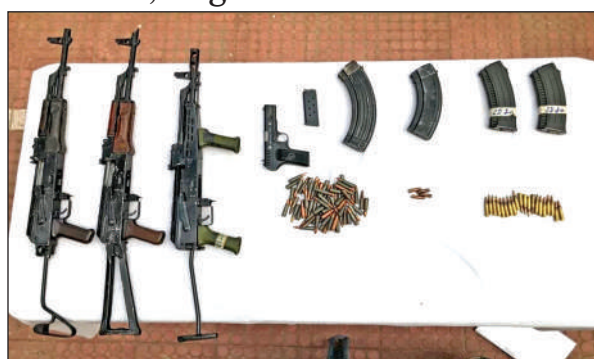
Earlier in the day, terrorists opened fire on two non-local labourers in Pulwama

district

"Terrorists opened firing on Patleshwar Kumar and

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Terrorist hideout busted near LoC in Poonch, huge cache of arms seized



Arms and ammunition seized by security forces from a hideout in Poonch.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Security forces busted a terrorist hideout in a village near the Line of Control (LoC) in Poonch dis-

trict and seized a large quantity of arms and ammunition, a defence spokesman said on Monday. He said

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

PIL regarding shifting of all illegal immigrants from J&K Home Secretary directed to evolve mechanism for identification of illegal immigrants

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a Public Interest Litigation filed by Adv Hunar Gupta, seeking direction to J&K for appointing and issue necessary directions to a former Retired Judge to hold an inquiry to identify all illegal immigrants from Myanmar and Bangladesh migrated in J&K, a Division Bench of Jammu & Kashmir High Court comprising Chief Justice Pankaj Mithal and Justice Moksha Khajuria Kazni after hearing Sr. Adv Sunil Sethi with Adv Ankesh Chandel for PIL whereas

Advocate General D C Raina with AAG Raman Sharma for the UT, directed Secretary Home, UT of J&K to consider the matter and to evolve a mechanism for identification of all illegal immigrants and to prepare a list after identifying them. DB further directed that the exercise may be carried out, most promptly, within a period of six weeks.

In the PIL, further directions have been sought to shift all illegal immigrants from Myanmar and Bangladesh from J&K to any other place as No Refugee

Camp has ever been declared either by erstwhile State of J&K or by United Nation in J&K. As per government version, approximately 13,400 immigrants from Myanmar and Bangladesh are living in various areas of J&K, however, the actual figures are much more than official figures. It is submitted that in 1982 Myanmar Government declare them as non-national which led to their migration to neighbouring Bangladesh, Thailand and even Pakistan but they were not welcomed in these countries. This

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

79 foreigners among 172 terrorists active in J&K: Army

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: As many as 172 terrorists including 79 foreigners are active in Jammu and Kashmir, Army said on Monday, adding the number included 15 local youngsters who joined the terrorist ranks since the beginning of the new year.

A total of 156 terrorists 79 locals and 77 foreigners are active in Kashmir and 16 others including two foreigners are operating in the Jammu region, a defence spokesman said quoting the data released by Indian Army's northern command.

The data for January to

March 2022 revealed that a total of 15 local men joined the militancy.

Two infiltration bids, one each in Kashmir and Jammu zones, were foiled along the Line of Control (LoC) this year; the Army said, referring to the infiltration bids foiled in north Kashmir's Kupwara district, and Poonch in the Jammu region in January.

While one Pakistani terrorist was killed and another captured alive in Kupwara during the failed infiltration bid on the first day of the new year, an attempt by a group of terrorists to infil-

trate into this side from across the border in the Poonch district was foiled the next day.

In addition, the Army scuttled the third infiltration attempt from Pakistan on Monday when the alert troops shot dead a terrorist along the LoC in the Nowshera sector of Rajouri district.

On terrorist initiated incidents, the Army said a total of 35 such incidents were reported in the first three months of this year. These included 27 terrorist initiated actions against security forces and eight atrocities

committed against civilians.

The data also indicated that there was no ceasefire violation by Pakistan between January and March.

The Director-General of Military Operations (DGMOs) of India and Pakistan have announced an agreement to uphold the ceasefire along the LoC from February 24 and 25 night in 2021.

The Army said no terrorist surrendered to the security forces during the past three months, while security forces recovered 23 weapons during anti-terrorism operations across Jammu and Kashmir.

Seven houseboats gutted in Nigeen Lake

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: A fire at the famous Nigeen Lake here in the early hours of Monday destroyed seven houseboats, officials said.

The fire broke out on one of the houseboats anchored at the rear side of Nigeen Club on the lake and quickly spread to adjacent houseboats, resulting in destruction of seven of the floating hotels. Fire tenders were rushed to the spot to put out the blaze, the officials said, adding there was no loss of life in the incident.

The cause of fire, which destroyed property worth crores of rupees, was not immediately known.

Bail denied to four in Mata Vaishno Devi helicopter ticket scam

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Chief Judicial Magistrate Jammu Amarjeet Singh Langel, on Monday, rejected bail applications of Sunil Chawla, Deepak, Gajanan Meghwal and Monu Pankaj, all residents of Rajasthan, who were involved in cheating Mata Vaishno Devi pilgrims by offering fake Helicopter Tickets.

According to case, Cyber Crime Police Station Jammu received a complaint on February 11, 2022 from Co-ordinator J&K Global Vectra Helicorp Limited divulging therein that the company

came to know from social media news portal that some unknown fraudsters are cheating Mata Vaishno Devi pilgrims by offering fake Helicopter Tickets by projecting themselves as representatives of company. Complainant also provided detail of some links and asserted that unknown fraudsters have opened fake bank accounts, quite similar to Complainant Company, in different banks. It was also pointed out that entire ticket booking is handled by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board and no private agency is allowed to book any ticket.

Accordingly, FIR No 04/2022 for offences under sections 66-D of IT Act read with sections 420 and 120-B of IPC was registered and investigation started, during which four accused were allegedly arrested from Kota Pride situated at Kota (Rajasthan) on March 16, 2022 and some recoveries including Computers, Hard-disks, laptops and Modem etc were also recovered. Even though initially only offences under sections 420 & 66-D of IT Act were registered against petitioners but during the course of

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

J&K records 2 fresh COVID cases; Ladakh 1 Doda first to achieve 100 pc first dose vaccination for 12-14 years in J&K

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir on Monday reported only two fresh cases of COVID-19, taking the infection tally in the union territory to 4,53,815, officials said here.

Both the fresh cases were reported from Kashmir division's Srinagar district, they said.

Nineteen of the 20 districts in the union territory did not report any fresh case.

There are 162 active cases of the disease in the union territory, while the number of recoveries has reached 4,48,903, the officials said.

The COVID-19 death toll in the union territory stands at 4,750 as no fresh fatality was reported in the last 24

hours.

The officials said there were 51 confirmed cases of mucormycosis (black fungus).

Meanwhile, Doda has become the first district in the Union Territory to achieve the landmark of administering 100 per cent first dose of COVID-19 vaccine among the 12 to 14 years, officials said.

The district achieved the feat within two weeks of the inoculation drive despite being the most difficult region with 55 per cent schools from primary to high school level located in inaccessible areas, the officials said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi rolled out the vaccine

for the 12-14 age group on March 16.

The officials said the Doda district administration immediately formed a multi-dimensional strategy by constituting combined teams of the concerned teachers of all the primary, middle and high schools with health workers, paramedics and anganwadi workers besides appointing a nodal officer in every block.

"The drive was carried on war footing in entire district from the very first day of the campaign and all the officials were asked to submit compulsory daily report from every school, which resulted in achieving the major feat of 100 per cent vaccination within two weeks," Nodal officer Vaccination Rana

Aarif said.

Block Medical Officer, Bhaderwah, Shakeel Ahmad Sumbria said it seemed like a herculean task as majority of the primary and middle schools are located in far off and inaccessible areas, but the way our teams carried out the vaccination drive while climbing hills every day is commendable.

"The past experience of carrying vaccination drives of the population of 18 years and above was very handy and this is the one of the reasons that the drive ended so smoothly and in record time," he said.

As per the data shared by the district administration from Cowin Portal, against the total target population of

20,042 in the age group of 12-14 years, the first dose was administered to 20,280.

The top three districts to administer Covid vaccine among children in Jammu and Kashmir are Doda 101 per cent followed by south Kashmir's Shopian at 89 per cent and border district of Poonch at 85 per cent.

Bandipore, Kishtwar and Srinagar remained at the bottom of the chart registering 11, 24 and 26 per cent vaccination, respectively.

According to reports from Leh, Ladakh has reported one fresh COVID-19 case, taking the infection tally to 28,225 in the Union Territory during the past 24 hours, officials said.

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

ICCC delegation visits Jammu; discusses investment, trade opportunities



JKPTO members honouring ICCC delegation in Jammu.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A delegation of Indo Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC) on Monday visited Jammu and discussed investment and trade opportunities with thrust on exports from Jammu and Kashmir to Canada, an official spokesman said.

The delegation headed by President ICCC Ripudaman

S Dhillon held a special session with officials and private stakeholders including principal secretary industries and commerce Ranjan Prakash Thakur and Managing Director J&K Trade Promotion Organisation (JKPTO) Ankita Kar.

The spokesman said the JKPTO and ICCC will

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9