

Regd. No. L-29/JK-346/22-24 Narco smuggler arrested with 2.2 Kg U brown sugar

Prof Umesh Rai takes over as 14th VC JU

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

Air surcharge 50 paisa for Leh Volleyball coaching camp in full swing at Jammu

imbalances in J&K: LG

Sixth Navratra is related to Maa Katyayni'. When excesses of Danav Mahishasur increased Lord Brahma, Lord Vishnu and Lord Shiva incarnated a Devi who was first of all worshipped by Mahrishi Katyayan, so this Devi is called Katyayani. Devi with golden colour has four hands with upper right hand for blessings. She has sword and lotus in the left hands. On this day of Navratra heart of worshipper is in 'Aagya Chakra'. By the blessings of this Devi one leads fearless, diseasefree life and possesses all the comfort of life. Mantra to be recited nine times on this day is :-

"Om Aing Hareeng Kleeng Chaang Kleeng Bhagwati Katyayni Mam Tanu Arogyam Kuru Kuru Swaha

ॐ ऐं हीं क्लीं चां क्लीं भगवती कात्यायनी मम तनु आरोग्यम् कुरु कुरु स्वाहा

Ramzan Mubarak



Mysterious blast near Srinagar Tulip Garden, tourist van driver injured STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: A tourist van driver was grievously injured in an unexplained explosion inside his vehicle at the parking lot of the Tulip Garden here Wednesday, officials

The explosion took place when the driver of the van, bearing a registration number of the Jammu district, opened the rear door of the vehicle near the parking area, they said. They

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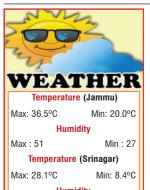
Petrol, diesel prices hiked again; record 10 pc rise in 16 days STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Petrol and diesel prices on Wednesday were hiked again by 80 paise a litre each, taking the total increase in rates in the last 16 days to Rs 10 per litre or over 10 per cent.

Petrol in Delhi will now cost Rs 105.41 per litre, as against Rs 104.61 previously, while diesel rates have gone up from Rs 95.87 per litre to 96.67, according to a price notification of staterun fuel retailers.

Rates have been increased across the country and

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Two LeT terrorists involved in Sarpanch's Govt determined to remove developmental killing eliminated in Tral encounter

SRINAGAR: Two terrorists of proscribed terror outfits Ansar Ghazwatul Hind and Lashkar-e-Taiba were killed in an encounter with security forces in the Tral area of district Pulwama Wednesday, police said.

The two terrorists have been identified as Umar Nabi Teli @Talha son of Ghulam Nabi Teli resident of Ladoo Khrew and Shafat Muzaffar Sofi @Muavia son of Muzaffar Ahmad Sofi resident of Batagund Tral, , a police official said,

He said the duo were wanted in several terror cases, including the killing of a Sarpanch in the Khonmoh area of Srinagar earlier this

The two terrorists had shifted base to Tral recently, he added.

As per police records, both were categorized terrorists. involved in several terror crime cases including attacks on Police/SF and civilian

Businesses, markets in several J&K districts asked to install CCTV cameras STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU/SRINAGAR: The and Kashmir authorities have ordered business establishments, places of worship and markets in several districts to install CCTV cameras within 14 days, in a move aimed at deterring criminals and antisocial and anti-national ele-

The orders were issued on Tuesday by the district magistrates of Bandipora, Srinagar, Doda, Anantnag, Budgam and Jammu. The orders will remain in force for 60 days but can be modified earlier or

STATE TIMES NEWS

Wednesday busted a fake

Shri Mata Vaishno Devi

online helicopter ticket book-

ing fraud by arresting three

As per the details, Reasi

and

Police registered 3 FIRs

67/2022 at Police Station

Katra on the basis of com-

plaints regarding fake online

helicopter ticket booking for

Mata Vaishno Devi pilgrim-

age. After registration of the

cases, special teams were

framed under the supervision

of Amit Bhasin, Addl SP

Katra and were dispatched

persons from Bihar

05/2022, 63/2022

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Encounter breaks out in Shopian SRINAGAR: A gunbattle broke out between terrorists and

security forces in Jammu and Kashmir's Shopian district on Wednesday, police said.

Security forces launched a cordon and search operation in Shopian's Heripora village following information about the presence of terrorists there, a police official said.

The search operation turned into an encounter which was going on till reports last came in, the official added. There were no reports of any casualties so far.

atrocities. Before shifting to Tral area, both the killed terrorists were involved in several terror crimes in Srinagar

Muzaffar Sofi was also involved in grenade throwing on CRPF Camp on March 19, 2022 and a case FIR No.

Moreover, both the terrorists were attempting to revive the terror folds by being instrumental in motivating gullible youth to join terror folds.

Incriminating materials, arms and ammunition were recovered from the site of encounter. All the recovered materials have been taken into case records for further investigation. In this regard, a case under relevant sections of law has been registered and investigation has been initiated, the officials

Responding to questions about terrorists resorting to soft target attacks on civilians including "CRPF men in Maisuma' in which one paramilitary trooper was martyred and another injured. IGP Kashmir said: "We have neutralized 66 terrorists of proscribed terror outfits JeM & LeT this winter season from December 21 to March 22- which has led to

Hawala case: Lookout notice issued against absconding ex-minister Babu Singh

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Police has issued a lookout notice against absconding former minister Jatinder Singh alias Babu who is wanted for his alleged involvement in a case related to the recent recovery of hawala money meant for "subversive activities" here, officials said on Wednesday.

The officials said the lookout circular was issued against Singh, a resident of Kathua district and Chairman 'Nature-Mankind Friendly Global Party', who had gone underground after his name surfaced in the

Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Online Helicopter tickets booking

40 fake websites blocked; 3 Biharis arrested

for selling fake tickets, more arrests likely

to various parts of the coun-

try for arrest of the accused

persons involved in the

A team headed by DySP

Kuljeet Singh, SDPO Katra,

after hectic investigation

zeroed on some places in

Bihar state and subsequently

After sustained and hectic

efforts, the team succeeded

raided at various locations.

investigation of the hawala The step was taken to

ensure that he did not flee



the country and is brought to book, the officials said.

Mohammad Shareef Shah (64), a resident of south Kashmir's Kokernag, was arrested with the hawala money on March 31 from Gandhi Nagar area of Jammu and his questioning revealed that he was tasked by Babu Singh, a resident of Kathua district, to collect the

money from Srinagar. Three persons Sidhant Sharma of Kathua and S Gurdev Singh and Mohd Shrief Sartaj of Jammu have also been detained for questioning in connection with the case.

On April 2, the Director General of Police Dilbag Singh said the politician

Dulloo, the words ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9 Terror hideout busted in Reasi

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Security forces on Wednesday seized a cache of ammunition and a grenade from a terrorist hideout during a cordon-and-search operation in Reasi district, officials said. The hideout was uncovered in the Kot Budhan forests of Mahore during a joint operation by the police and the Army, they said. A live grenade, four AK-47 rounds, a AK-47 cartridge, two damaged syringes, a lighter, Rs 1,400 cash, a pair of scissors, six utensils, a torch, two blankets and some clothes were found at the hideout, the officials said. A case has been registered and an investigation

reforms introduced to bridge the Rural-Urban gap. During his visit border vil-

LG Manoj Sinha addressing gathering at border village Kalyanpur on Wednesday

JAMMU: Reviewing the implementation of the developmental schemes during lage Kalyanpur of Marh area, the LG said that an Block Diwas, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on unprecedented Rs 600 Crore Wednesday said the J&K has been allocated in this Government is determined to financial year to strengthen remove the developmental border infrastructure, creimbalances and truly realize ation of modern agriculture the limitless potential and and agro-based small-scale possibilities of border areas. and village industries.

He termed Border village The Lt Governor reiterated development as the main pilthe government's commitlar of the Nation's development to the goal of providing ment and highlighted the a better quality of life to the

citizens living in far-flung areas by ensuring access to modern health care, education, roads, clean drinking water, skill training, selfemployment opportunity for complete spatial and socioeconomic transformation of border villages, making them vibrant centers of rural pros-

Our focus is on saturation of development schemes benefit, financial inclusion of women and holistic

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Medical Suptd GMC Rajouri, MS Poonch Hospital placed under suspension; MS Kulgam Hospital attached

■ STATE TIMES NEWS JAMMU: In view of derelic-

tion of duties and pending enquiry into their conducts, the Government of Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday placed under suspension Dr. Mehmood Hussain Bajar, Medical Officer looking after the charge of Medical Superintendent, Government Medical College, (GMC) Rajouri and Dr. Mushtaq Hussain Shah, Medical Officer looking after the charge Medical Superintendent, District Hospital Poonch.

Both the officers have been placed under suspension with immediate effect in terms of

Rule 31 of Jammu and Kashmir Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1956, states two separate orders issued by Additional Chief Secretary, Health and Medical Education.

During the period of suspension, both the doctors shall remain attached with the Directorate of Health Services, Jammu.

Consequent upon their suspension, the Director Health Services, Jammu also shall assign the charge of Medical Superintendent, District Hospital, Rajouri and

Medical Superintendent,

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87 civilians killed, 99 security personnel martyred in J&K since Article 370 scrapped: Govt Four KPs among 14 Hindus killed since 2019

STATE TIMES NEWS

STATE TIMES NEWS

J&K Admn extends

child care leave to

'single male employees'

JAMMU: A male govern-

ment employee who is

divorcee or widower will now

get child care leave as appli-

cable to women in Jammu

and Kashmir, according to a

notification issued on

This step has been taken by

the Department of Finance

as a major welfare measure

for employees, following the

approval of child care leave

to women employees for a

According to the notifica-

tion issued by additional

chief secretary (finance) Atal

period of two years.

Wednesday.

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: As many as 87 civilians were killed and 99 security personnel have been martyred in Jammu and Kashmir since the abrogation of Article 370 on August 5, 2019, as compared to 177 civilians and 406 security personnel in the previous five years, Union Minister of State for Home Nityanand Rai informed the Rajya Sabha.

The minister said the central government has a policy of zero tolerance against terrorism and there has been a substantial decline in terror-

ist attacks from 417 in 2018 to 255 in 2019, 244 in 2020 and 229 in 2021.

As many as 177 civilians and 406 security personnel were killed from May 2014 to August 4, 2019 in Jammu and Kashmir, while 87 civilians and 99 security personnel were martyred from August 5, 2019 to November 2021, he said in a written reply to a question.

'A robust security and intelligence grid is in place to prevent any terrorist attack. In addition, day and night area domination, round the clock checking at Nakas,

patrolling and proactive operations against terrorists are being carried out," he

Replying to another question, the minister said the Jammu and Kashmir government has reported having received proposals for investments worth approximately Rs 51,000 crore since the abrogation of Article 370.

He said the union government has notified the new central sector scheme for industrial development of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir announced

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Parliament passes criminal procedure identification bill, Shah says it will help increase conviction rate for crimes

in nabbing three fraudsters

from Bhadurpur area in

District Khagaria Bihar.

These fraudsters were identi-

fied as Ashok Mistri, resident

of W.No.13 Shumbha Bihar;

Santosh Kumar, son of

Shumbha Khagaria and

Lakhpati Paswan, resident of

Khagaria, police also

Sumbha

Gaji

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Parliament on Wednesday passed the Criminal Procedure (Identification) Bill, with Home Minister Amit Shah assuring the Rajya Sabha that biometric data of political detainees will not be collected and the proposed law will exclude brain mapping and polygraph

The bill was passed by a voice vote after Shah sought to allay concerns raised by the Opposition, which claimed the draft law was "dracon-

The Lok Sabha had passed the Criminal Procedure (Identification) Bill, 2022, which replaces the Identification of Prisoners Act, 1920, on Monday. The legislation will now be forwarded to the President for

approval before it becomes law. 'Under section 3, the government of India has the right to make rules. We



son involved in a political agitation has to give (physical and biometric) measurements only for political agitation. But, if a political leader is arrested in a criminal case, then he will have to be at par with a citizen,"

He said no measurements will be taken of any political person for violation of prohibitory orders promulgat-

While replying to a debate on the bill, Shah underlined the legislation is aimed at improving the conviction "It is aimed at building capacity for

the police and forensic teams," he said, adding the measure was intended to preclude the use of third degree methods (custodial torture) and making available the benefits of science and technology to prosecuting agen-

Shah deplored none of the members rose to say conviction rates in the country are low and should be

According to the minister, 66 out of 100 people charged with murder and 70 of 100 arraigned for dacoity get

Shah said the bill has been brought to ensure that police and investigators remain two steps ahead of crimi-

"I want to assure you that this is not going to violate the privacy of anyone," Shah said, seeking to assuage the concerns of opposition MPs.

The data collected will be completely secure, he said.

"No provision of this bill permits performing narco analysis, polygraph test and brain mapping of any prisoner," the home minister said.

Shah said police will send fingerprint impressions to the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), which will share the name of the person with the investigators only if it matches with the records present in the database. Police will not have access to fingerprint data of others, he said. "We ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Govt assures return of assets to Kashmiri migrants

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The Modi government is capable and making efforts to restore assets to Kashmiri migrants and so far properties of 610 applicants have been returned, Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Nityananda Rai said in

Rajya Sabha on Wednesday. Responding to queries during the Question Hour in the Upper House, the Minister said the District Magistrate has been designated as the custodian of the migrants' properties. The state government has also started a portal to resolve the complaints of migrants.

"The Modi government and Home Minister is capable of returning the assets to Kashmiris. migrant

Constant efforts are being

made," he said.

If the complaint of migrants is genuine and cor-

rect, their assets will be returned. So far, the assets of 610 applicants have been returned, he added.

Asserting that Jammu and Kashmir is on a development track, the Minister while responding to a supplementary query said that the state has received an investment proposal of Rs 51,000 crore for industrial development which will help create employment opportunities for 4.50 lakh people.

The construction of about 13 roads has provided better reach in the state. Prior to 2019, the speed of construction was at 6.54 km per

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Sunset: 18:55 Hours

Sunrise: 06:14 Hours