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**SOWING SKILLS**  
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03

Chief Justice inaugurates Fast Track Court, Jammu

03

JDI Jammu attends National Workshop on promotion of AVGC sector

06

Time to review some elements of 42nd & 44th Constitution Amendments made during Emergency Times



**ROZA TIMING**

**SEHR TIME:**  
04:26 (APRIL 21)

**IFTAAR TIME:**  
07:07 (APRIL 20)

**Two die as boulder hits truck on Jammu-Srinagar National Highway**

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

RAMBAN: A truck driver and his helper died late Wednesday evening when a boulder hit their truck along the Srinagar-Jammu national highway in Ramban district of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said.

The boulder hit the cabin of the Kashmir-bound truck near Digdole, resulting in the death of driver Maqsood Ahmad and helper

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**Video shows Ramban school locked, children playing outside; probe ordered**

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

RAMBAN: The Ramban district authorities in Jammu and Kashmir ordered an inquiry after a video surfaced purportedly showing classrooms of a government primary school being locked and students playing outside in the absence of any teacher.

Social activist Narinder Singh reportedly shot the video at the school in Hunga on Monday.

Taking a serious note of the absence of teachers, Ramban Deputy Commissioner Mussarat Islam sought an inquiry into it and ordered that the

**Man killed, brother injured in blast in Kishtwar**

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: A man died and his brother was injured in a blast at their home in Kishtwar district on Wednesday, police said. "Initial reports revealed that the blast occurred when the duo tried heating an abandoned object they found while collecting mushrooms in a nearby forest," a police officer said. "The blast took place in the kitchen of the house of Mohd Abass Naik in Symbol village," the officer added.


Police have launched an investigation into the matter.

**Sarpanch arrested on rape charges in Sopore**

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

SRINAGAR: A sarpanch was arrested on Wednesday for allegedly raping a woman in Baramulla district, police said. Ali Mohammad was held following a complaint by the victim at the Rafiabad police station, they said.

Police said a case under IPC sections 376 (rape), 506 (issue threat) and 109 have been registered against the accused.



**WEATHER**

**Temperature (Jammu)**  
Max: 24.7°C Min: 17.4°C

**Humidity**  
Max: 90 Min: 63

**Temperature (Srinagar)**  
Max: 11.5°C Min: 10.3°C

**Humidity**  
Max: 93 Min: 93

Sunset : 19:04 Hours  
Sunrise : 05:59 Hours

## Y20 Consultation Meet at JU

# Youth fearlessly pursuing their dreams in J&K: LG



LG Manoj Sinha addressing Y20 Consultation meet at Jammu University on Wednesday.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday said the Jammu and Kashmir is emerging as a "noticeable narrative on bringing civility" to the land that was once scarred and wounded by terrorism.

"The biggest stakeholders of this new and aspiring Jammu Kashmir are the youth," Sinha said after inau-

gurating a Y20 Consultation meet on the theme 'Peace building and reconciliation: Ushering in an era of no war' at University of Jammu.

Sinha also said that the people, especially youth, are fearlessly pursuing their dreams. Now, economic development, an important stimulus to aspirational society, and basic fundamental rights like education, health-

care, employment, and the pursuit of happiness are no longer hostage to violence. Youth power is the strength of Jammu Kashmir and they have dedicated themselves to rejuvenate the society and to drive inclusive development, he added.

While highlighting the important role of the young generation in peace-building, he urged the youth to follow

the ideals of Mahatma Gandhi & Swami Vivekananda to build a global society based on trust and mutual respect.

"Youth is the most significant time to create civilised and cooperative world order with a spirit of oneness and they will offer new hope, innovative solutions to tackle the challenges to peace and sharpen social consciousness," said the Lt Governor.

"I see youth bringing about reconciliation and shaping a new world for the good of citizens. Individual as well as society's aspiration can be fulfilled only in conditions of peace and young generation is eager to create a peaceful and prosperous present and future for entire humanity," the Lt Governor observed.

It is the responsibility of the youth to use their collective strength for

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**Gandhi Nagar dacoity case: Two absconding gangsters arrested from Punjab**

*Jammu police nabs duo from Hoshiarpur*

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Gandhi Nagar Police on Wednesday arrested two more accused from Punjab in Rakesh Agarwal dacoity case. The incident took place on December 7, 2022, after which Jammu police had arrested over eight accused while these two were absconding since then.

Both the gangsters identified as Harvinder Singh alias Ricky and Rajvinder Singh alias Raja, residents of Dasua Hoshiarpur were arrested from Hoshiarpur and shifted to Jammu.

Soon after the dacoity in Dec 2022, Jammu Police had raided many places and

arrested Amit Rana alias Harpreet Singh (command/master mind of Tarlochan Singh Wazir's murder), son of Parmjeet Singh, resident of C-35 Hanuman Road Connaught Place, New Delhi at present 684, Diagana (Jammu), Harjinder Singh alias Fouji, son of Surinder Singh, resident of Ralhian Teshil Dasuya in District Hoshiarpur; Raja Singh alias Raja son of Gurdev Singh, resident of Panwah Tehsil Dasuya district Hoshiarpur in Punjab, and Pintu.

On December 7, 2022, over 10 armed men barged into the house of businessman Rakesh Aggarwal at Green Belt Park in Gandhi Nagar and decamped with over Rs 12 to 15 lakhs.

At least 15 police investigation teams were constituted, which worked day and night. Six SITs were sent to Delhi, Chandigarh, Hoshiarpur, Jalandhar, Dasuya, and Patiala in the neighbouring state Punjab.

The police had also recovered two pistols, police uniforms of cyber crime personnel which were used to execute the dacoity and approximately Rs 5 lakhs cash was

also recovered.

Elaborating on the police investigation, the ADGP Jammu Zone Mukesh Singh had said that "Jammu police team led by SSP Chandan Kohli had gone to arrest Amit Rana following an input. Amit Rana, however, fired upon the approaching police team. The police team bravely managed to arrest him alive and recovered the weapon (pistol)," ADGP said, while appreciating the raiding police team for their swift investigation in the case.

Quoting the investigation, ADGP had also stated

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**14 Govt employees suspended, 21 others served show cause notice in Poonch for unauthorised absence**

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: As many as 14 government employees were placed under suspension and 21 others, including some gazetted officers, were served show cause notices for being absent from duty without authorisation following a surprise inspection at offices in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district, officials said on Wednesday.

Deputy Commissioner, Poonch, (DC) Inder Jeet ordered the action against the erring government

employees after a surprise inspection of various government offices, including Jal Shakti, Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) and floriculture departments in the district, they said.

The official said the deputy commissioner formed a committee headed by Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Tahir Mustafa Malik to conduct surprise inspections across all the government offices in a phased manner following complaints from public

and Panchayati Raj Institutions.

"Those absent have neither sanctioned leave in their favour nor have maintained any movement register for field visits. Moreover, some Head of Departments holding important offices are unaware of the whereabouts of their immediate staff as well as field staff. Further some HODs are themselves found absent during office hours," the official said.

He said the ADC Poonch recommended stringent

action against erring employees including HODs. Acting on the recommendations of the committee, the deputy commissioner suspended 14 employees and issued show cause notices where-in HODs are directed to clear their positions within a week, the official said.

"There will be zero tolerance towards poor and unprofessional work culture. The general public needs not to suffer because of such erring employees," he said.

**Youth at 2023 will define India @ 2047: Dr Jitendra**

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

NEW DELHI: Union Minister Jitendra Singh on Wednesday said "youth at 2023 will define India @ 2047" and highlighted the various steps taken by the Narendra Modi government for the youngsters, especially those from northeast and Jammu and Kashmir.

Speaking as chief guest at the 'Youth 20 Consultation on Peace-Building and Reconciliation: Ushering in an Era of No War' at the University of Jammu via video conference from here,

he said three generations have passed since Independence and there was no dearth of talent or capabilities but the favourable

Modi. "So this is a great opportunity but at the same time also a challenge and privilege because the same youth will be deciding the face of India@2047. Those who are thirty today will be the prime citizens," said Singh, the Minister of State for Personnel.

He said 2023 is a very important year for the country as India is holding the G20 presidency. In this auspicious year, one can

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**Active COVID cases in country climb to 63,562**

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

NEW DELHI: India has logged 10,542 new coronavirus infections, while the active cases have increased to 63,562, according to the Union Health Ministry data updated on Wednesday.

The death toll has increased to 5,31,190 with 38 deaths, which includes 11 reconciled by Kerala, the data updated at 8 am stated.

The Covid case tally was recorded at 4.47 crore (4,48,45,401).

The daily positivity rate was recorded at 4.39 per cent and the weekly positivity rate was pegged at 5.1 per cent.

The active cases now comprise 0.14 per cent of the total infections and the national COVID-19 recovery rate has been recorded

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**Parts of J&K continue to receive snowfall for 2nd consecutive day**

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

SRINAGAR: The higher reaches of Kashmir continued to receive snowfall for the second consecutive day, officials said on Wednesday.

The upper reaches of the valley, including Keran and Machil, in the Kupwara district, Gurez, in the Bandipora district, and Sonamarg in the Ganderbal district, received light snowfall, they said, adding that there are reports of snowfall in some other areas at the higher reaches of Jammu and Kashmir.

Snowfall continued on the Zojila Pass along the Srinagar-Leh national highway for the second day.

The plain areas, including Srinagar city, were lashed by overnight rains, bringing down the temperature, they said.

The meteorological (MeT) office has said intermittent light to moderate rain at most places of Kashmir and scattered places of Jammu would continue till the



evening, after which there would be a significant decrease in rainfall activity.

The higher reaches are likely to experience a good amount of snowfall, it said.

There is a forecast of intermittent light to moderate rain at scattered places from Thursday till Saturday.

The weather is likely to stay mainly dry after that till April 25.

**Banihal-Qazigund Train service suspended due to waterlogging**

SRINAGAR: Train service between Banihal and the Kashmir Valley was suspended on Wednesday after rain caused waterlogging at a railway station, officials said. The rail service between Banihal, in the Jammu region, and Qazigund, in the valley, was suspended after incessant rainfall caused waterlogging at Hillar railway station in south Kashmir's Anantnag district, the officials said. They said the service was suspended as a precautionary measure. The officials said the service would be restored after improvement in the weather conditions. Many areas in the higher reaches of the Kashmir Valley received snowfall, while the plains were lashed by rains over the last 48 hours.

**Avalanche warning issued in six districts of J&K**

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir Disaster Management Authority Wednesday issued avalanche warning in six districts of the Union territory, officials said.

Avalanche with low danger level is likely to occur 3,000 to 3,500 metres above the sea level over Doda, Kishtwar, Poonch, Ramban and Baramulla districts in the next 24 hours, the officials of the Authority said.

Avalanche with medium danger level is likely to occur above 2,800 metres over Ganderbal district in the next 24 hours, they said.

People living in these districts are advised to take precautions and avoid venturing in the avalanche prone areas till further orders, they said.

Many areas in the higher reaches of J-K received fresh snowfall over the past 48 hours, while plains were lashed by rains.