Air surcharge 50 paisa for Leh

19 Dr Jitendra announces special University UU drive for StartUps in J&K, Northeast

Regd. No. L-29/JK-346/22-24

Govt employee arrested for raping woman after posing as 'Tantrik'

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

6th World Cup Rollball Tournament: India, Kenya enter women's semi-finals; India, Kenya, Belarus, Senegal in men's quarter-finals

LG expresses firm resolve to make PRIs more powerful, effective in J&K



LG Manoj Sinha addressing during National Panchayati Raj Day celebrations at Palli, Samba on Monday.

STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: Saving that devolution of funds, functions and functionaries besides seamless coordination at each of the levels of three-tier system of Panchayati Raj has given tremendous boost to aspirations of rural society, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday asserted the government's resolve to make PRIs more powerful, efficient and effective in Jammu and Kashmir.

The Lieutenant Governor

was speaking at a function held to celebrate National Panchayati Raj Day at Palli,

On the occasion, the Lt Governor conferred awards to the concerned awardees of UT Level Panchayat Awards. He also launched 'Mera Samba' Swachhta App for Community Participation and inaugurated 18 Nokia Smartpurs for Samba and 6 for Anantnag

While addressing the Panchayati Raj representatives, he highlighted the stories of best performing Panchayats of J&K that have been awarded in three categories at the national-level. These Panchayats are inspiring other PRIs for improving delivery of services and public

goods, he added. "As powerful agents of socio-economic change and engines of rural development, Panchayats are making a significant contribution to the nation building and empowering the citizens to meet the

development," he said.

Collective efforts of common man and Panchayats are playing an important role in realizing big dreams of small villages of UT. By establishing and strengthening threetier grassroots democracy in Prime Minister Narendra Modi has ensured rapid and inclusive development, Sinha added.

The Lt Governor urged all the public representatives to give priority to the underprivileged to realise the Mahatma Gandhi's dream of Poorna through Gram Swaraj. Our efforts should also focus on removing developmental imbalances, he

"Rural growth is the main pillar of the Country's development and to achieve our objectives, Gram Panchayats will have to play a major role in economic empowerment of all the citizens, ensuring

Shopkeeper injured in firing by terrorists in Anantnag

■ STATE TIMES NEWS SRINAGAR: Terrorists shot at and injured a shopkeeper in Anantnag district on

Monday evening, officials

said here. The ultras opened fire on Aqib Ahmad Dar (31) at Marhama in Anantnag district at around 9 pm, they

Dar was rushed to a hospital where his condition was stated to be stable. Police have taken cognisance of the incident.

Child marriage prevented in Kishtwar

■ STATE TIMES NEWS JAMMU: A child marriage

was prevented by district child protection unit in Kishtwar district Monday, officials said.

District Protection Officer (DCWO) Kishtwar swung into action after receiving information that two minors, aged below 16, are getting married in a remote village in Drabshalla

NIA attaches properties of HM chief's sons in Budgam, Srinagar

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Monday attached a house and two kanals of land belonging Mujahideen chief Syed Salahudeen's two sons in Budgam and Srinagar districts, officials said.

A team of NIA officials first attached a house in Ram Bagh area here registered in the name of Syed Ahmed Shakeel, son of designated terrorist Salahudeen, they said.

"The house, registered in the revenue records in the name of Syed Ahmad Shakeel, was attached by the NIA on court orders under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act," an NIA official said

Later, the team went to Soibugh in Budgam district, the ancestral place of one of the most wanted terrorists in India, and attached a plot of agricultural land measuring

two kanals (10,880 square In a statement, the NIA feet), the officials said. The land is registered in the name of Salahudeen's another son, Shahid Yusuf. Notice boards announcing the attachments were

Besides, the NIA also seized six shops Awantipora area of Pulwama district in a case relating to a 2018 attack on CRPF Group Centre at Lethpora, J&K.

installed at both the premises

by the NIA sleuths.

said it attached two properties of the sons of designated terrorist Syed Mohammed Yusuf Shah @ Syed Salahudeen, the self-styled Supreme Commander of Hizb-Ul-Mujahideen (HM) and Chairman of United Jihad Council (UJC).

"The immovable properties of Shahid Yusuf and Syed Ahmed Shakeel, located in Kashmir in Soibugh

Three Hizbul OGWs get life-imprisonment for terror funding

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Special Judge NIA Jammu Ashwani Sharma on Monday awarded life-imprisonment to three Ground Workers $_{
m Hizbul}$ Mujahideen, Majid Ali Sheikh, Shah Nawaz and Majid Amin in terror funding case.

The verdict came after 19 years of investigation and

According to case, on December 28, 2004, accused were caught red-handed by the Naka party of Army Intelligence and SOG of J&K police near village Tarore, Bari Brahmana on

> Govt constitutes panel to screen

NABARD Projects

JAMMU: Jammu and

Kashmir Government on

"Sanction is accorded to

constitution of Committee,

for screening NABARD

projects, before recommend-

ing them further for

Four injured in

collision of two

vehicles in Poonch

POONCH/JAMMU: Four

people, including a minor,

were injured when their vehi-

cle collided with a threewheeler and rolled down a

gorge in Jammu and

Kashmir's Poonch district,

into the Madana Lassana

area of Surankote tehsil,

Four people, including a

13-year old, suffered injuries

and have been hospitalised,

the officials added.

officials said on Monday. Both the vehicles rolled

they said.

STATE TIMES NEWS

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

approval and to ensure

constituted

STATE TIMES NEWS

Monday

Committee

NABARD Projects.

basis of specific information and a sum of Rs 9,38,000 was recovered from a vehicle (Maruti Omni) van bearing registration number JK02J-1505 in which accused were moving from Delhi towards Jammu. The money was terrorist fund collected by accused from one Javed Ahmed Wani, resident of Ghat Tehsil Doda and was to be delivered by convicts to terrorists of banned outfit HM namely Masood Ahmed, for enhancing terrorist activities in Doda.

Special Judge Ashwani Sharma, after hearing APP Anil Magotra

CONTD ON PAGE 9

Reservation based on religion unconstitutional: Amit Shah

STATE TIMES NEWS HUBBALLI (K'TAKA): Union Home

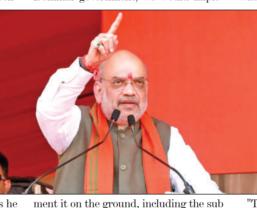
Minister Amit Shah on Monday said reservation based on religion was uncon-

stitutional, and asserted that the BJP would implement the quota formula adopted by Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai-led government in Karnataka. He said, BJP has given tickets

for May 10 Assembly polls in Karnataka on merits of winnability, and not on the basis of majority or minority, and also nowhere a non-Lingayat candidate has replaced a Lingayat. Former Chief Minister Jagadish

Shettar who recently quit BJP and joined Congress will not win the polls this time, Shah declared, as he pointed out that Hubballi-Dharwad has always voted for the BJP.

"I want to assure the people of Karnataka that whatever formula of reservation that has been adopted by the Bommai government, we would imple-



category reservation (internal reservation) among the Dalits. This is our

Addressing a press conference here, he

said, reservation on the basis of religion was unconstitutional, and never would it "permission" under the Constitution.

About the reservation crossing 50 per cent, Shah said, "it has

been challenged in the court, wait for its order. Congress leaders are saying that they would once again bring in Muslim reservation. "I want to ask them with utmost humility as to

whose will you reduce to bring it back? Whether you will reduce Vokkaligas or Lingayats or Dalits or STs (reservation). Congress will have to come out clear on this." "Those Muslim community categories

that are under OBC, we are ready to ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

work out mutually acceptable solution ■ STATE TIMES NEWS 27 and 28.

Ladakh standoff: India, China agree to

NEW DELHI: India and China agreed during their military talks on Sunday to stay in close touch and work out a mutually acceptable solution to the "remaining issues" in eastern Ladakh at the earliest, but there was no indication of clear forward movement in ending their three-year-long

standoff. The 18th round of the Commander-level Corps talks took place days ahead of Chinese Defence Minister Li Shangfu's planned visit to India to attend a meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) on April

In a statement on Monday,

the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said the two sides had a "frank and indepth" discussion on the resolution of the "relevant" issues along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the Western sector.

"The two sides agreed to stay in close contact and maintain dialogue through military and diplomatic channels and work out a mutually acceptable resolution of the remaining issues at the earliest," the MEA said. The talks were held at the Chushul-Moldo

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Poonch terror attack: Over 40 detained for questioning; search ops enter day-4



STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH/JAMMU: More than 40 persons have been detained for questioning as part of a massive operation currently underway to track in the Poonch terror attack

officials said on Monday. Additional troops have been inducted to further intensify the cordon-and-search opera-(CASO) in Bhata

neighbouring areas. As the operation entered fourth day on Monday with engagement of multiple security agencies, the entire belt is put under cordon, they said.

Five Army personnel were killed and a sixth was seriously injured when their vehicle caught fire during a terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch Thursday.

According to the investigation, the terrorists likely hid in a culvert on a stretch of the Bhimber Gali-Poonch road before they attacked the truck that was carrying

look into charges framed against Dy Dir Prosecution STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The government Monday appointed Mohammad Shahid Saleem, Director, Forensic Science Laboratory as Inquiry Officer (IO) to look into the charges framed against Lal, Deputy Inderjeet Prosecution Director, Department.

"In terms of Rule 33 of Civil Services J&K(Classification, Control and Appeal] Rules. Mohammad Shahid Saleem, JKAS, Director Forensic Science Laboratory, J&K is appointed as Inquiry Officer

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Union Secy DDWS reviews JJ, Swachh Bharat Missions in J&K

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Union Secretary, Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, (DDWS), Ministry for Jal Shakti, Vini Mahajan, on Monday chaired a review meeting of Jal Jeevan Mission, Swachh Bharat Mission and GOBARdhan

here at Civil Secretariat. The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary, Jal Shakti, Shaleen Kabra; Union Additional Secretary and MD National Jal Jeevan Mission, Vikas Sheel and Union Joint Secretary and MD Swachh Bharat Mission,



Union Secretary, DDWS, Vini Mahajan chaired a review meeting in Jammu on Monday.

The meeting had detailed discussion on various topics related to sanitation including management, disposal and repurposing of cattle

dung GOBARdhan scheme. The UT officers briefed about

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Mayor stresses on replacing poly-bags with those made of cellulose-starch

STATE TIMES NEWS JAMMU: A campaign to ban

polythene in Jammu commenced on Monday to further the objective of G20 to stop the activities responsible for climatic changes with the Municipal Jammu Corporation (JMC) organizing an awareness campaign in collaboration with FICCI FLO JKL chapter under guidance of its Chairperson Varuna Anand. Model Institution of Education and Research (MIER) also collaborated.

Members of FICCI FLO JKL chapter and MIER Collage chairperson, vice chairperson and students participated in the programme in which Mayor of Jammu; Rajinder Sharma



Speaking on the occasion, the Mayor stressed on having will power and determination to accomplish any task and cited the example of Carl Lewis-an athlete who being

physically challenged won

Olympics due to will power.

gold medals in

"Society can't change till it develops will and spirit for a change," he maintained further citing another example of Michael Fill who despite having a broken arm won eight gold medals in Olympics.

the gathering and added, "With this spirit you will work dedicatedly to discard all the polythene from the Jammu city within a month."

Sharma said that for similar programmes shall be car-"I see the same spirit and ried on in each college and potential in you," the Mayor university of Jammu and

four students from each of these institutions shall talk on the issue from which the first three shall be given cer-

He said that this initiative of anti-polythene by JMC is taken as per G20 objective and after this there shall be a walk in which students shall participate and the walk shall follow with a conference in which all DDC and BDC members shall participate along with chairmen presidents and councillors of municipal bodies and others.

The Mayor also stressed on the replacing poly-bags with the one made of cellulose and starch as the latter is made of bio-degradable material which will not harm the

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Tulip Festival at Sanasar from April 26

STATE TIMES NEWS JAMMU: Over the years,

promotion of Tourism in Jammu region has been gaining focused attention. especially in the wake of immense potential in pilgrim, nature, leisure and adventure tourism options, spread across various tourist destinations, especially in Patnitop, Sudhmahadev, Mantalai and areas around.

Under the aegis of Department of Tourism, Directorate J&K, Tourism, Jammu, in associawith Patnitop Development Authority Kud and District Administration Udhampur/Ramban has taken various initiatives for Promotion of Tourism in Patnitop, Sanasar and other tourist destinations falling

within its jurisdiction in order to boost the destinations and increase the flow of

Accordingly, a mega Tulip festival has been scheduled at Sanasar from April 26, 2023 to April 27, 2023 wherein Art, Cultural and Heritage of Jammu region shall be showcased.

During the two day event, celebrity singer, local cultural artists and other programmes including Adventure sports activities shall be performed.

The event is being organized by Directorate of Tourism Jammu, Patnitop Development Authority in collaboration with District Administration Ramban. J&K Academy of Art Culture and Languages in

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

WEATHER Max: 34.1°C Max: 37 Max: 25.6°C Max: 67 Min: 20

Sunset: 19:07 Hours

Sunrise: 05:53 Hours