

MAHAVIR JAYANTI GREETINGS TO ALL OUR READERS

THE BOLD VOICE OF J&K

Vol. 28 Issue 92 • Jammu • Tuesday • April 4, 2023 • Pages 12 • ₹ 2.50 Air surcharge 50 paisa for Leh

J.K. PUBLIC SCHOO

Jammu Mayor chairs meeting of Joint **Commissioner Works, Executive Engineers**

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

Those entering Gazetted Engineering Services in 'J&K' have reasons to complain of 'unfair' discrimination

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

Ricky Club wins Volleyball trophy

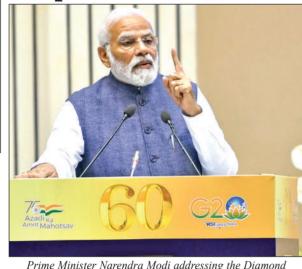


LG greets people on Mahavir Jayanti

STATE TIMES NEWS JAMMU: Lieutenant

Governor Manoj Sinha has greeted the people on the auspicious occasion of Mahavir Javanti. In a message, the Lt Governor said that Bhagwan Mahavir's ideals of truth, sacrifice, non-violence and right conduct, inspire all to lead a life of compassion and harmony. May this Mahavir Jayanti festival strengthen our commitment to lead a virtuous life and bring peace, prosperity and happiness to all, said the LG.

CBI should act against corrupt, however powerful without hesitation: PM



Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressing the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of CBI at Vigyan Bhawan, in New Delhi.

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: There is today no dearth of political will to act against corruption and officers should take action against the corrupt, however powerful, without hesitation, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said

Addressing a gathering at the diamond jubilee celebrations of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), the prime minister said the agency has developed as a brand of "truth and justice" over the last 60 years.

biggest roadblock to democracy and justice, he said the agency's key responsibility is to free India from it.

Stressing that the CBI should not be distracted by those trying to tarnish its image, Modi said a developed India is not possible without professional and efficient institutions and this puts a huge responsibility on the

The CBI's chief responsibility, he said, is to rid the country of corruption.

"Corruption is not an ordinary crime, it snatches the rights of the poor, it begets many other crimes, corruption is the biggest obstacle in the path of justice and democracy," he said.

He asked the CBI to devise ways to fast-track its investigations against the corrupt because a languishing probe gives a sense of safety to the corrupt while innocent

J&K LG Manoj Sinha to head Prison **Development Board** ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Constitution of Prison Development Board in terms of Para 31.16 of Chapter XXXI of J&K

Prison Manual 2022.

"In terms of para 31.16 of Chapter XXXI of the Prison Manual, 2022, sanction is accorded to the con-Prison stitution ofDevelopment Board," reads an order issued Raj Kumar Goyal, Financial Commissioner/ Additional Chief Secretary, Home Department.

The Board would be headed by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha as its chairman while Administrative Secretary Finance Department, Administrative Secretary Home (Prisons), Department, Director General of Police, J&K, Director General Prosecution, J&K, Registrar General, High Court of J&K and Ladakh, Administrative Revenue Secretary Department, Administrative Secretary, Law

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

J&K: CAG calls for timely submission of Utilisation Certificates, adjustment of advances on AC bills

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Taking serious note of the delay in filing of utilisation certificates (UC) of funds in Jammu and Kashmir, the Comptroller and Auditor General of India has called for timely submission of the UCs and necessary steps to ensure adjustment of the advances drawn on the Abstract Contingent (AC) bills within the stipulated period.

In its report on the Union Territory Finances for the year ended March 31, 2022, the CAG also called for timely preparation and submission of accounts by various autonomous bodies in the Union Territory, highlighting that 37 numbers of accounts were not rendered for the period ranging between one to 12 years.

"There are 3,859 number of UCs amounting to Rs 11.295.43 crore pertaining to erstwhile State and UT of Jammu and Kashmir out-

standing as on 31st March 2022," the report, tabled in the parliament last week, observed.

It said while 3,089 UCs for grants paid up to 30 October 2019 amounting to Rs 8,158.32 crore by the erstwhile state and 770 UCs for grants paid by UT of Jammu and Kashmir amounting to Rs 3,137.11 crore were outstanding up to 31 March

The CAG said the department-wise breakup of total outstanding UCs shows that 77.73 per cent of total outstanding UCs pertain to four departments, of which 43.13 per cent of outstanding UCs pertain to the education department.

Rural Development Department, Agriculture department and health and medical education department are others that have failed to submit UCs till the end of the last financial year. "Non-submission of the

tion) Financial Code,

UCs means that the authorities have not explained as to how funds were spent over the years. There is also no assurance that the intended objectives of providing these funds have been achieved, the report said.

The CAG said this assumes greater importance if such UCs are pending against Grants-in-Aid meant for capital expenditure.

"It is imperative that the government should monitor this aspect closely and hold concerned persons accountable for submission of UCs in a timely manner, it said.

The CAG said the Government of Jammu and Kashmir has not framed revised rules relating to drawal of Grants-in-aid and submission of UCs thereof but in terms of the erstwhile State of Jammu and Kashmir (Pre re-organisa-

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Famous Basohli painting from Kathua gets GI-tagging

STATE TIMES NEWS JAMMU: The world-famous

painting from and Kashmir's Kathua district has obtained the Geographical Indication (GI) Tag following an approval by the National Bank for Agriculture and Development (NABARD), an official spokesman said on Monday.

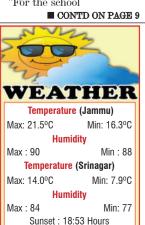
The GI tag to a product, goods or speciality grants legal protection to the original producers and prevents their unauthorised use by third parties. It also boosts exports, promotes the goods at the international level and brings economic prosperity

No proposal for one-time relaxation in eligibility criteria for JEE-Main: Edu ministry STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The Union Education Ministry on Monday ruled out considering any proposal for a onetime relaxation in eligibility criteria for engineering entrance exam JEE-Main this year.

The ministry has been receiving representations from a few students who claimed to have faced difficulties in the JEE (Main) 2022 exams. Union Minister of State for Education Subhas Sarkar informed Lok Sabha in a written response.

"After due verification, the affected candidates were allowed to appear in reexaminations held on June 29, 2022 (Shift-2) and June 30, 2022 (Shift-1) for Session-1 and on July 30, 2022 (Shift-1) for Session-2. Moreover, the candidates who have passed the Class 12/ equivalent examination in 2021, 2022, or appearing in 2023 can appear in JEE (Main) - 2023 examination. "For the school



Sunrise: 06:18 Hours

to producers and stakehold-

ers.
"The process for GI-tagging of nine products was initiated by NABARD in consultation with Department of Handicrafts and Handloom (J&K) in December 2020. The GI tags have now finally been granted to these products after a long legal process," the spokesman said.

Besides the Basohli paintings, Basohli pashmina woolen products (Kathua), Chikri wood craft (Rajouri), Bhaderwah rajma (Doda), Mushkbudji rice (Anantnag), Kaladi (Udhampur),

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Illegal possession and encroachment of land: Court orders

STATE TIMES NEWS JAMMU: In a much publicized case in which CBI produced challan against Kanta Andotra, former MLA and then Chairperson of R B Educational Trust based at Kathua and Ravinder Singh, the then Patwari Muthi Hardo for illegal possession and encroachment of land, a Special Judge CBI Court R K Wattal directed reinvestigation in case under the supervision of SP CBI concerned and granted four months time.

This case was registered on complaint of one Vikas Renot Sub Inspector ACB Jammu

on the basis of the preliminary enquiry done by him on some source information to the effect that a huge land of Government Public/Forest Department in District Kathua J&K has been encroached upon by

some unscrupulous elements in violation of J&K Agrarian Reforms Act 1976 and in connivance with Revenue officers and Forest officers of the Departments. It was alleged in the com-

plaint that Revenue officials of Kathua have entered into criminal conspiracy R B Educational Trust Kathua allowing the trust to retain the land beyond 100 Kanals ceiling limit provided under Agrarian Reforms Act and a case under section 120-B read with 218, 409 of RPC and section 5(2) read with 5(1) (e) of J&K PC Act 2006 and registered under FIR RC0042020A0005 against said Trust through its Chairperson, Ajay Singh the then DC Kathua, Avtar Singh the then Tehsildar Marheen, Des Raj the then Tehsildar Chhan Arorian Tehsil Marheen, Ram Paul the then Girdwar, Sudesh Kumar the then Patwari and other unknown

India has upheld its global image as emerging leader: Army Vice Chief STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: India has upheld its global image as an emerging leader by taking responsible roles on various occasions, especially during the pandemic, Vice Chief of Army Staff Lt Gen Suchindra Kumar said on Monday.

In an address at an event, he also said that the Indian Army stands fully committed and prepared to fulfil the nation's expectations wherever possible, according to an official statement. Lt Gen Kumar was speak

ing at the third Gen

run from rented house

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

reinvestigation in case against former MLA, others It was alleged in FIR that Kanta Adnotra has acquired land in excess of the ceiling limit of 100 standard Kanals in violation of section 14 of Agrarian Reforms Act 1976 and accused got the wrong calculation of land done which was held by the said Trust as 152 Kanals 01 Marla and 110 Kanlas and 18 Marlas by entering into conspiracy with other Revenue officials and officers and a false affidavit was also sworn before the High Court to mislead the court and saving the trust and to give benefit to the trust allowing

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The Anti-

Corruption Bureau (ACB)

has trapped and arrested one

Ajaz Ahmad Mir, Gram

Damhal Hanjipora, Kulgam

for demanding and accepting

bribe of Rs 7,000 for releas-

ing bill regarding some con-

struction work of a project.

As per an official

spokesperson, a complaint

was received by Anti-corrup-

tion Bureau against Gram

Rozgar Sevak Ajaz Ahmad

Mir, son of Nazeer Ahmad

Mir, resident of Boh

Hanjipora, Kulgam, alleging

Noorabad,

Rozgar Sevak,

while accepting bribe of Rs 7,000

Block

Damhal

Police recovers arms, explosives from package suspected to be dropped by drone in Samba



Arms & explosives recovered by Samba Police.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS SAMBA/JAMMU: Police on Monday recovered a cache of arms and explosive materials from a package suspected to

of Rs 7,000 for processing

/forwarding demand of

labour money regarding a

project namely Bhuhi Naag

at Reshipora. "Since con-

tents of complaint disclosed

demand of bribe by accused

public servant, a pre-trap

verification was conducted

and accordingly FIR

03/2023 was registered at

Station

Anantnag and investigation

started. Consequently, a trap

team was constituted, which

caught Ajaz Ahmad Mir, son

of Nazeer Ahmad Mir, resi-

dent of Boh Noorabad,

Damhal Hanjipora, Kulgam

red-handed for

drone International Border in Jammu and Kashmir's Samba district, officials said. The package -- found

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

ACB nabs Gram Rozgar Sewak red-handed Woman dies after falling from train

STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: A woman aged around 35 years died after she fell from a running train in Samba district, an official

said on Monday. The unidentified woman fell down from Jammu Mail Express on the railway track near Vijaypur on Sunday evening, the Government Railway Police (GRP) official said, adding that she

died on the spot. He said the body was shift-

ed to the Government Medical College Hospital in Jammu for post-mortem and identification. The inquest proceedings have been initiated at the GRP post in Vijaypur, the official added.

Man held for killing 9-year-old daughter in Kupwara STATE TIMES NEWS

arrested a man for allegedly suffocating her nine-year-old daughter to death and then slitting her throat in Kupwara district, officials said on Monday.

Khatana was arrested last week for the March 29 killing of his minor daughter," a senior police officer told reporters in Kupwara, about 100 kilometres from

Narrating the sequence of events, he said Khatana's relations with his wife, Nageena Begum, were strained for the last one year and they would often quarrel. "On the day of the crime, Khatana, a taxi driver by

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Union Secretary hails e-transformation of J&K's PDS

STATE TIMES NEWS JAMMU: Union Secretary,

Department of Food & Public Distribution, Sanjeev Chopra, has appreciated the reforms introduced by the Department of Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA), J&K for holistic transformation and streamlining of the public distribution system.

Interacting with the offiof the FCS&CA Department here on Monday, the Union Secretary hailed the commendable efforts made by the Department to make the Public Distribution System hassle-free and at the



Union Secretary, Sanjeev Chopra chairing a meeting in Jammu

same time stressed the need for immediate integration of Scale.

He asked the Department to build adequate capacity and be ready for implementation of Route Optimization Plans as and when the same Government of India and

ticipation in Smart PDS when the same is rolled out with the Weighing by the Government of India. Earlier, in his presentation, Commissioner

notified by the also urging for effective par-

Secretary FCS&CA, Zubair Ahmad presented an overview of the functioning ofDepartment with stress on new initiatives. He informed the Union Secretary

that he was demanding bribe ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9 Prostitution racket busted in rented accommodation at Bagh-e-Mehtab; two arrested 4 sex workers & 2 customers detained for questioning

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Police on Monday busted a prostitution racket in Bagh Mehtab area of Srinagar and arrested two persons who were running it. However 4 sex workers & 2 customers were also detained for ques-

As per the details, on the basis of a specific information, a prostitution racket has been busted by Srinagar Police after conducting raid at a premises falling in of Bagh Mehtab area. The sex racket was being run by Irshad Ahmad Bhat, son of Shaban Bhat, resident of Kadalbal Pampore and Mohd Shafi Hajam, son of Abdul Qayoom Hajam, resident of

Accused running prostitution racket along with sex workers, customers in police custody. Karim Abad Pulwama and owned by one Altaf Hussain others which were arrested Afaqi, son of Asadullah

on spot, while 4 sex workers resident & 2 customers (all 6 are Chanapora. locals of Srinagar) were FIR 19/2023 under secalso detained for questiontion 3,4,8 of Immortal ing. The whole racket was Trafficking Act has been

registered at Chanpura shops on rent.

Police station. Further, house owner had not done tenant verification, he will also be booked. All citizens are requested to do tenant verification if they have given their Houses /rooms/

SRINAGAR: Police have "Mohammad

profession, had a

Rahul gets bail in defamation case; hearing on conviction stays on Apr 13 "We had filed an application

STATE TIMES NEWS

SURAT: A sessions court in Gujarat's Surat city on Monday granted bail to Congress leader Rahul Gandhi after he filed an appeal against his conviction in a criminal defamation case over his 2019 "Modi surname" remark in which he has been sentenced to two years in jail, a lawyer said. The court of Additional

Sessions Judge R P Mogera said it will hear his plea for suspension of conviction on April 13 after issuing a notice to complainant Purnesh Modi, a Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MLA and former Gujarat cabinet

The sessions court asked the respondent (Purnesh Modi) to file his reply by April 10.

for Rahul Gandhi's bail and suspension of sentence along with his appeal against conviction by a lower court. The (sessions) court heard the matter and granted him bail. The court kept the matter for hearing on the stay of his conviction for April 13," a member of his legal team told Rahul Gandhi, who arrived

in Surat earlier in the day, will not be required to appear in the court during the hearing of the case, he said.

Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra and other party leaders were present in the courtroom when the matter came up for hearing at around 3 pm.

Rahul Gandhi reached the sessions court premises

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9