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STATE TIMES

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Air surcharge 50 paise for Leh

03 Why can not practice of promotion from one Incharge Status to Another I/C be stopped in Gazetted Cadres

03 BJP deposes senior leaders Dr Jitendra, Meghwal, Mandaviya for West Bengal election

10 JK Public School Kunjwani hosts Workshop on Artificial Intelligence for faculty

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

Incessant rainfall: Schools closed in Kashmir today, Jmu-Sgr NH blocked

Mughal Rd continues to remain closed; Cloudburst in Kherkot area of Banihal kills livestock

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Authorities in Kashmir have announced closure of all schools in the valley on Tuesday as a precautionary measure in view of the rising water level in rivers and streams due to incessant rainfall over the past three days.

The University of Kashmir has also postponed all examinations that were scheduled to be held on Tuesday.

The water level in water bodies across Kashmir has been rising due to the continuous rainfall, according to officials.

While a danger warning has been issued for the Pohru Nallah in Kupwara district, the water level in other water bodies of the valley, including the Jhelum river, is still below the alert mark. The meteorological department has forecast wet weather till Tuesday evening.

The Directorate of School



Education, Kashmir, issued the order to suspend classes in all schools up to the higher secondary level on Tuesday.

The step has been taken as a precautionary measure in view of the incessant rainfall, according to the order.

The Meteorological Department said, "The weather will improve from tomorrow. The weather will be generally dry with no major activity from May 1 to May 5."

Earlier in the day, heavy rainfall in Kupwara district

Teenager dies, two houses damaged in fresh landslide at Ramban

RAMBAN: Two houses were damaged and a teenager died after landslide hit the Karool area of Jammu Kashmir's Ramban district on Monday.

As per details, due to incessant rains, landslide occurred in Karool hamlet of Ramban district resulting in the damage of two residential houses. A 13-year-old boy was also hit by the landslide leading to his death. He has been identified as Yaqub Hassan Mir.

Police in this regard have registered a case under relevant sections of law.

Div Com assesses situation
SRINAGAR: In view of the incessant heavy rainfall, Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri on Monday convened a high level meeting to assess the overall situation and rescue operations.

The meeting was attended by DIG Police, Kashmir; Deputy Commissioners; Chief Engineer Irrigation & Flood Control; Chief Engineer PWD; Chief Engineer PDD; CE, J&K ERA; Director IMD; officers of NDRF, SDRF, NHIDCL, PHE, Health, Civil Defense, NHDC, NHAI, SMC and other concerned departments.

Addressing the meeting, Div Com directed round the clock functioning of Control Rooms in every district to monitor the flood situation during night, and deputation of senior officers and field staff for restoration of essential services besides responding to any exigency. He

INDIA bloc vanquished in 2 phases of polls: Modi

STATE TIMES NEWS
SOLAPUR: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday said the Congress, despite its "tainted background", is dreaming of snatching power in the country unaware that the INDI alliance is already vanquished in the first two phases of Lok Sabha elections.

Addressing a rally in Solapur, Modi said a 'mahayudh' is going on in the INDI bloc over leadership and they have come up with a formula of "five PMs in five years", who will eventually loot the country.

He said the people have tested him for 10 years whereas there is a leadership crisis in the INDI bloc.

"In this election, you will choose the guarantee of development for the next 5 years. On the other side, there are people, who before 2014, gave the country corruption, terrorism, and non-governance. Despite



Rivals spreading fake videos: PM
SATARA (MAHARASHTRA): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday said political rivals who are unable to take on the B-JP-led government are now misusing technology to spread fake videos on social media.

At an election rally in Karad of western Maharashtra's Satara district, Modi raised concerns about the misuse of social media and technology and warned "there is a plan to create a big incident in next one month".

Modi spoke of the emergence of fake videos created using artificial intelligence (AI), and asked people to remain vigilant and report any instances of fake videos to the authorities.

"Opponents are using AI to distort quotes of leaders like me, Amit Shah and J P Nadda to create social discord. By using technology, these people are making fake videos in my voice, which is creating danger. If you see

Parties seeking postponement of elections in Anantnag-Rajouri seat due to fear of loss: Farooq

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: National Conference president Farooq Abdullah on Monday claimed that the fear of loss was making some parties seek postponement of elections in Anantnag-Rajouri Lok Sabha seat.

"There was a massive flood in Kashmir in 2014, the destruction was widespread. We asked to postpone the elections at that time. Did they defer it? What is the compulsion now?"

"They can see their defeat and because of the fear they want to defer the elections. Let them defer, we will still

defeat them," Abdullah told reporters here.

Several political parties and leaders have written to the Election Commission, seeking deferment of the polls in Anantnag-Rajouri Lok Sabha seat on the grounds of in-clement weather affecting the Mughal road that connects South Kashmir to Poonch-Rajouri area - the two regions of the newly-carved out constituency.

Those who have submitted their representation to the EC include Jammu and Kashmir B-JP chief

24 candidates in fray in Srinagar PC, 5 withdraw nominations

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: On the last date of the withdrawal of nomination papers for Lok Sabha Elections-2024 in 02-Srinagar Lok Sabha seat, five (05) Candidates withdrew their Candidature in the Office of Returning Officer 02-Srinagar Parliamentary Constituency here on Monday.

The Returning Officer (RO) for 02-Srinagar Parliamentary Constituency, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat informed that five (05) candidates withdrew their Nominations on the last date

2 candidates file nomination papers for Baramulla Constituency

BARAMULLA: Two candidates filed their nomination papers to contest the General Lok Sabha Elections-2024 from 1-Baramulla Parliamentary Constituency at the Office of the Returning Officer here on Monday.

Mudasir Ahmad Tantray, an independent candidate from Handwara filed his nomination before the Returning Officer for 1-Baramulla Parliamentary Constituency, Minga Sherpa.

Similarly, nomination papers on behalf of Independent Candidate, Abdul Rashid Sheikh from Langate were submitted at the office of Returning Officer, 1-Baramulla PC.

of withdrawal (Monday- 29 April, 2024) out of the total 29 valid Nominations. He added that only 24 validly Nominated Candidates now

remain in fray for the Srinagar Lok Sabha Seat.

Those who remain in fray include Aga Syed Ruhullah Mehdi from Jammu

UGC-NET postponed to June 18 to avoid clash with UPSC prelims

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: The National Eligibility Test (NET) has been rescheduled to avoid a clash with the UPSC preliminary exam and will now be conducted on June 18, UGC Chairman Jagadesh Kumar announced on Monday.

Earlier, the exam was scheduled to be held on June 16.

"The National Testing Agency and UGC have decided to shift the UGC-NET from 16 June (Sunday) to 18 June 2024 (Tuesday) because of

feedback received from candidates about the exam clashing with UPSC prelims.

NTA will conduct UGC-NET in OMR mode across India on a single day," Kumar said.

UGC-NET is an exam to determine the eligibility of Indian nationals for the "award of Junior Research Fellowship and appointment as assistant professor", "appointment as assistant professor and admission to PhD" and "admission to PhD only" in Indian universities and colleges.

Martyr VDG laid to rest; leaves behind five minor daughters

STATE TIMES NEWS
BASANTGARH : Village Defence Guard (VDG) Mohd Sharief, who lost his life in a gunfight with terrorists, was laid to rest amid pouring rain at his ancestral village in Jammu and Kashmir's Udhampur district on Monday, with mourners demanding a relief package for proper rehabilitation of his five minor daughters, wife and mother.

Sharief (47) was killed when a group of terrorists, who have recently infiltrated from across the border, attacked a joint patrolling party of police and VDG in Panara village of Basantgarh, some 155 kms from winter capital Jammu, early Sunday.

The body of the deceased was handed over to his family Sunday evening after a wreath laying ceremony at Basantgarh police station.

Additional Director General of Police, Jammu zone, Anand Jain paid rich tributes to the brave-heart for valiantly fighting

Panchayat Secy selection: HC modifies interim order, allows Govt to appointment 1395 candidates

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Justice Wasim Sadiq Nargal of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court modified interim order in Panchayat Secretary selection process and allows government to go ahead with appointment of 1395 candidates.

Justice Wasim Sadiq Nargal after hearing Adv Wasim Akram Qazi for the petitioner whereas AAG Amit Gupta for the UT, observed that it is very strange that the petitioners instead of participating in the selection process, have filed the instant writ petitions with a view to stall the selection process by way of misrepresentation of the facts and on mere apprehension, as they have based their claim on the draft rules, the proposal of which has already been rejected by the competent authority.

High Court further observed that due to the passing of the interim orders in the aforesaid writ petitions, the whole selection process has been stalled and as per the learned counsel appearing for the official respondents, the department is suffering due to dearth of staff and has prayed for

vacation of the interim orders. Even otherwise also, this Court is prima-facie of the view that the petitioners have no locus to challenge the selection process for direct recruitment, as there is no preferential fundamental right of the petitioners for seeking regularization. Thus, it can safely be concluded that the Jammu and Kashmir Service Selection Board being a creature of the statute, is under an obligation to carry out and finalize the selection process for the advertised posts strictly in accordance with the rules/regulations occupying

the field and not as per the draft proposal, which has since been rejected by the competent authority and after hearing both the sides, Justice Wasim Sadiq Nargal is of the opinion that no fruitful purpose will be served to extend the interim directions, which are being harshly working against the interests of the candidates, who have since been selected and not being appointed due to the rider imposed by this Court and in the aforesaid backdrop, the interim directions passed by this Court vide orders dated June

remain in fray for the Srinagar Lok Sabha Seat.

Those who remain in fray include Aga Syed Ruhullah Mehdi from Jammu

Search operation to track down, neutralise terrorists underway in Udhampur

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: A massive search operation to track down and neutralise two groups of terrorists in the dense forests of Basantgarh in Udhampur district entered the second day on Monday.

A village Defence Guard (VDG) was killed in a brief encounter with terrorists in remote Panara village in Chochru Gala heights early Sunday, following which the hunt was launched by the police, army and CRPF.

"The operation is on and there was no fresh contact with the fleeing terrorists. Additional forces have moved



in this morning to intensify the efforts to track down and neutralise the terrorists," a police official said.

Additional Director General of Police, Jammu

zone, Anand Jain said two groups of terrorists are believed to be present in the area after they recently infiltrated from across

WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 24.0°C Min: 18.1°C

Humidity
Max: 71 Min: 69

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 8.8°C Min: 5.3°C

Humidity
Max: 93 Min: 84

Sunset : 19:10 Hours
Sunrise : 05:45 Hours

DG NIA visits PHQ Jammu; interacts with DGP, senior officers

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Director General of National Investigation Agency (NIA), Sadanand Vasant Date on Monday visited Police Headquarters J&K here where and held a detailed interaction with Director General of Police J&K, R.R Swain and other senior officers.

During the interaction, the officers underlined to further strengthen the collaborative efforts in investigations to combat terrorism and counter the support structures that aids and abets such nefarious activities and to devise more effective measures by giving thrust on effective investigations.

The officers focused on exploring opportunities and



launching initiatives that will ensure sustainable support, resources, and coordination between J&K Police and NIA. This collaborative approach will further bolster investigation efficiency and enhance the overall efficacy

of the anti-terrorism campaign. The initiative of capacity building programme between NIA and J&K Police was also discussed.

ADGP (Headquarters/Coordination) PHQ

INDIA bloc leaders will 'scramble' for PM seat if it comes to power by 'mistake': Shah

STATE TIMES NEWS
JHANSARPUR (BIHAR): Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday warned that a victory of the opposition INDIA bloc, "even by mistake", will lead to a scramble among top leaders of the alliance for the prime minister's post.

Shah claimed that leaders like M K Stalin, Sharad Pawar, Lalu Prasad and Mamata Banerjee may agree to a year each of premiership, by turns, and "Rahul baba (Rahul Gandhi) will have to settle for whatever is left of the tenure".

In contrast, he said, "a third term for Prime Minister Narendra Modi will lead to elimination of corruption from the entire country, including Bihar, and eradica-



tion of casteism in the state".

"Modi's return to power is certain. But, suppose, even by mistake, if the INDIA alliance comes to power, what will happen? Who will be the prime minister? Will it be Stalin, Sharad Pawar, Mamata Banerjee or Rahul

Gandhi? They will all settle for sharing the top post for a year each. Is it how the country can be run?" Shah said.

The senior B-JP leader, who addressed election rallies in Jhansarpur and Begusarai Lok Sabha constituencies of Bihar, also charged the oppo-

sition bloc with seeking restoration of triple talaq.

"Should we have triple talaq? INDI alliance leaders like Rahul Gandhi and Lalu Prasad say they will protect Muslim Personal Law. They should forget their plans. The BJP government will implement a Uniform Civil Code across the country," Shah asserted.

Claiming that Modi's victory and a third term in office were certain, he also cautioned against "political instability" that may follow if the INDIA coalition manages to form a government "even by mistake".

"We need a leadership that is strong and not helpless. If the INDIA alliance comes to power... M K Stalin,