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

Vol. 27 Issue 129 • Jammu • Wednesday • May 11, 2022 • Pages 12 • ₹ 2.00 Air surcharge 50 paisa for Leh

## Grandsons crush grandmother UL to death over land dispute

## Sukhnandan raises issue of water channels to save farmers

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

## J&K UT women team leaves for **Sub Junior National Hockey C'ship**

## Sufficient resources allocated to provide tap water to all households by Dec 2022: LG

#### **STATE TIMES NEWS**

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday said that sufficient resources have been allocated to provide tap water supply to all households in Jammu and Kashmir by December

We need robust institutional arrangements to ensure benefit of common man," the Lt Governor said while reviewing the progress of Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) and Swachh Bharat Mission-Grameen (SBM-G) during a high-level meeting with the officials of Union Ministry and UT administration, at the Civil Secretariat.

At the outset, Mahajan, Secretary, Union Ministry of Jal Shakti briefed the chair via a PowerPoint presentation on the status of implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission and SBM-Grameen in the J&K UT. Mahajan highlighted key implementation issues and



LG Manoj Sinha reviewing progress of Jal Jeevan Mission and Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) during a meeting in Srinagar.

## LG approves age relaxation for JKCCE aspirants

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Tuesday approved age relaxation in the upper age limit for the ensuing Jammu and Kashmir Combined Competitive Examination

The decision was taken keeping in view the demands from aspirants and several delegations during a series of meetings with the Lieutenant Governor.

Following meetings and representations from aspirants and delegations, the Lt Governor on Tuesday approved age relaxation in the upper age limit of JKCCE candidates in all three categories. Now, the upper age limit for Open Merit Candidates will be 35 years instead of 32 years, for Reserved Category & In-Service candidates 37 years instead of 34 years and 38 years for Physically Challenged candidates.

Government understands the aspirations of youth and a decision has been taken to ensure JKCCE exams are conducted on regular basis unlike the past when these exams were held irregularly after a gap of many years, the Lt Governor said in a tweet.

dations for further effective

During the meeting, the programs ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

## Patwari absconding, associate arrested for accepting bribe state times news

JAMMU: Jatinder Kumar alias Jatin, engaged by a patwari was arrested by Anti Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Tuesday after he was caught taking bribe money allegedly on behalf of patwari identified as Arish Parvaiz, Patwari Halqa Digiana in Jammu.

A trap was laid following a complaint that revenue official Arish Parvaiz,

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#### GoC 15 Corps briefs LG on security scenario

#### **STATE TIMES NEWS**

SRINAGAR: The newlyappointed General Officer Commanding (GOC) of 15 Corps, Lt General Amardeep Singh Aujla on Tuesday called on the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha here.

The Lt Governor and the GoC discussed about various important issues relating to the security management in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. Discussions were also

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## CBI searches 8 locations in J&K, Mumbai in J&K Bank building purchase irregularities case

#### **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU/NEW DELHI: The CBI on Tuesday conducted searches at the premises of former J&K Bank chairman Haseeb Drabu and some other former top officials in connection with the purchase of the bank's office building in Mumbai in 2010, and claimed to have recovered "incriminating documents".

The searches were conducted at eight locations in Mumbai, Srinagar and Jammu after the agency registered an FIR in the purchase of the Akruti Gold Building for around Rs 180 crore by the bank for its integrated office in Mumbai on November 11 last year, offi-

The FIR was registered following a reference from the Jammu and Kashmir government, they said.

The premises of then bank Directors M I Shahdad and Vikrant Kuthiala, and for-

Mehta were also searched on Tuesday, the officials said.

This is the second search in this connection. The four were also members of the estate committee of the bank, they said. "The Central Bureau of

Investigation is today conducting searches at eight locations including at Jammu, Srinagar and Mumbai at the premises of then members of Estate Committee of the Board of Directors including then chairman of J&K Bank, then directors, then executive director. Incriminating documents, articles and electronic evidences, several bank account details and bank locker keys have been recovered during searches," CBI spokesperson RC Joshi said.

The CBI has alleged that the bank had entered into a deal for its branch office at the Bandra Kurla Complex (BKC) with Akruti Gold at a much higher rate than offered by other shortlisted

builders causing a loss of over Rs 100 crore to the bank.

The case was earlier probed by the Anti-corruption Branch of the Jammu and Kashmir Police, which had registered an FIR following a preliminary inquiry.

The inquiry report, now part of the FIR, had said an advertisement was issued by the J&K Bank on November 6, 2008, inviting offers for outright sale of integrated office premises at Bandra Kurla, Mumbai, requiring 20,000 sqft space.

Twenty-five builders had responded to the advertisement which were opened by the committee formed for the purpose and out of the offers received, eight properties Ashapura Builders (Hallmark Business Plaza), Topaz Akruti, Crescenzo (BKC), Platin BKC, Naman Centre, Golden Homeland agencies (Wockhardt). Windsor and KRC

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## Santoor maestro Shiv Kumar Sharma dies at 83

PM, Prez, LG, Jitendra, Chugh condole demise

**STATE TIMES NEWS** MUMBAI: Santoor virtuoso

Pt Shiv Kumar Sharma, who

 $_{\rm the}$ stringed instrument to the global stage and successfully straddled the worlds of classical and film music, died here on Tuesday folattack. He

Sharma, one of India's most well known classical musicians, died between 8 and 8.30 am at his Pali Hill

Pak returns body

of minor Indian

boy in Poonch

JAMMU: Pakistani authori-

ties on Tuesday handed over

the body of a 12-year-old

Indian boy who drowned in a

river in his home town in

Poonch district last week

and swept away across the

Line of Control (LoC) by the

strong current, officials said.

Zamin Rasool, a resident of

Surankote, drowned while

taking a bath in Pulas river

near S K Bridge on May 3

and his body could not be

traced by the rescue parties,

The rescue operation was

stopped Monday evening

when the Pakistani Army

informed their Indian coun-

terparts about the recovery

of a body from Tetrinote area

Kashmir (PoK), the officials

After confirming the iden-

tity of the deceased, the offi-

cials said modalities were

chalked out and the body

was handed over to Indian

Pakistan-occupied

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the officials said.

STAŤE TIMES NEWS

residence here, his secretary Dinesh told PTI.

He had been active till the end and was due to perform in Bhopal next week. He was also suffering from renal ail-

severe attack in the

was to perform in Bhopal next week. He was on regular dialysis but was still active, a family source said.

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# Charges framed against Hurriyat leader, 7 others for selling Pak MBBS seats in J&K

#### **STATE TIMES NEWS**

SRINAGAR: A special court in Srinagar on Tuesday framed charges against eight persons, including a prominent Hurriyat leader, for selling Pakistani MBBS seats in Jammu and Kashmir to fund terror activities.

Special judge NIA court, "He had a Srinagar, Manjeet Singh heart Manhas, framed the charges against Hurrivat leader and morning... He chairman Salvation Mohammad was active and Movement Akbar Bhat alias 'Zaffar Akbar Bhat' and seven other residents of Kashmir for committing offences under Unlawful (Prevention) Act.

The case was registered against the "unscrupulous persons" by the Investigation Agency (SIA) on July 27, 2020. They were hand in glove with some educational consultancies for arranging admission of Jammu and Kashmir residents in MBBS and other professional courses in various colleges, institutions and universities in Pakistan, officials said.

Besides Akbar Bhat, others accused in the case are Fatima Shah, Altaf Ahmad Bhat (at present in Pakistan), Qazi (absconding), Mohammad Abdullah Shah, Sabzar Ahmad Sheikh, Manzoor Ahmad Shah (at present in Pakistan) and Mohammad Iqbal Mir, who was released on bail because he was suffering from a terminal disease, they said.

The court framed the after hearing detailed arguments from a battery of lawyers from the side of the defence and the counter arguments of the SIA, which was represented by a special public prosecutor, in 11 hearings spread over five months, an official

The documents and other material seized during the search were analysed

sons and at other places were

undertaken by sleuths of the

SIA after obtaining search

warrants from the court, the

Kashmir.

official said.

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He said huge amount of money was received in lieu of such admissions from parents of students, and this was

ploughed into supporting terrorism in Jammu and Four pistols were seized During the course of investigation, searches in the houses of the accused per-

Police wrote on Twitter.

ist is sympathetic to the terror cause and radicalised enough to carry out a target-

Two terrorists, civilian killed; soldier injured in Kashmir

ed attack and then slip back into normal life.

#### STATE TIMES NEWS SRINAGAR: Security forces

Four hybrid terrorists held in Srinagar

2 LeT associates arrested in Awantipora

on Tuesday arrested four 'hybrid' terrorists here, police The arrests were made in

the Bemina area of the city. they said.

from the possession of the arrested persons, police said. "Police and Army (2RR)

arrested 04 #hybrid #terrorists along with 04 pistols from #Bemina area. Case registered and investigation started," the Kashmir Zone Police say a hybrid' terror-

According to a police hand-

out, "The apprehended individuals identified themselves as Tawoos Rasool Gada, son of Ghulam Rasool Gada and Saleem Jan Bhat son of Mohd Ashraf Bhat resident of Usmanabad opposite Degree College Bemina. On their personal checking, one Chinese Tokarev Type 54 Pistol, one magazine and ten

During initial questioning, the individuals disclosed that they were working as hybrid terrorists of TRF/LET

Chinese rounds each were

recovered from their posses-

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# HC paves way for registration, sale of Gair Mumkin Khad lands

various sections of the

## **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Justice Rajnesh Oswal of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court in a significant order decided writ petitions pertaining to Gair Mumkin Khad lands wherein the two petitioners, namely Ravinder Kumar Gupta and Rajat Jandial in a writ petition and one Uttam Singh in another writ petition had challenged order of FCR bearing no. FC-LS/MISC-288/2020 dated October 22, 2020 whereby issuance of Card Inthekhabs, Sale Gifts, Mortgage deeds registration of these lands were stopped, which challenged through Adv Aseem Kumar Sawhney appearing for Ravinder Kumar Gupta and another and Adv Sakaal Bushan for Uttam Singh's writ petition.

Justice Rajnesh Oswal hearing Sakal Bhushan, with Adv Rahul Sharma and Adv Aseem Sawhney appearing for petitioners, while D C Raina, AG with Eishan Dadichi GA, Nisha Kangotra observed that dispute in the present petition is with regard to the order No. FC-LS/MISC-288/2020 dated 22.10.2020 issued by the

respondent No. 2. "Reply has been filed by the respondents, in which it has been stated that pursuant to the judgment of Division Bench dated 12.02.2016, the Government issued SRO No. 456 dated 25.10.2017 in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 4 of Jammu and Kashmir Water Resources (Regulation and Management) Act, 2010, by virtue of which Government adopted State Water Policy. It was also stated that based upon the decision dated 29.01.2022ofAdministrative Council,

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#### **J&K reports 5** fresh COVID cases

SRINAGAR: Jammu and

## **STATE TIMES NEWS**

Kashmir on Tuesday recorded five fresh Covid cases, three from Jammu and two from the Valley, thus taking the total number of positive cases in the Union Territory to 454118.

According to the daily Media Bulletin, out of 454118 positive cases, 58 are Active Positive (36in Jammu Division and 22in Kashmir Division), 449309 have recovered and 4751 have died; 2328 in Jammu division and 2423in Kashmir division.

district-wise Providing breakup for positive

## **STATE TIMES NEWS**

SRINAGAR: Two terrorists and a civilian were killed while two others, including a soldier, injured in separate gunfights in Jammu and Kashmir, police said on Tuesday.

Giving details, a police spokesman said a cordon and search operation launched on Monday evening by security forces in the Pandoshan area of Shopian district following information about the presence of terrorists there.

As the search party was establishing the cordon around the area, the hiding terrorists started indiscrimi-



The spokesman said the security forces exercised maximum restraint to save

and evacuate the civilians present in the area. "However, during the evac-

terrorists targeted the civilians as well as the security forces in a bid to escape. Although the civilians were evacuated to a safer CONTD ON PAGE 9

## **Union Home Secy reviews progress of Smart** Metering, privatisation of power distribution in UTs

## STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The Union Secretary, Ajay Kumar Bhalla on Tuesday chaired a high-level meeting with the Chief Secretaries of the Union Territories to review the progress of privatization of power distribution and smart metering in the

Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta participated in the meeting on behalf of UT Government.

At the outset, a detailed presentation was given by the Ministry of Power showing progress and status achieved in privatization of power distribution and installation of smart meters

in the UTs It was informed that 63,844 smart meters have

been installed in the UT of  $\ensuremath{\mathrm{J\&K}}$  and the target of 1.15lakh meters will be achieved by July as the process for the instillation has been expedited across the UT. During the meeting, it was

also informed that the Request for Proposal (RFP) for six lakh meters was published on January 1, 2022, which is going to be finalized soon. Similarly, project proposal for remaining 14.95 meters Distribution Revamped Sector Scheme (RDSS) guidelines is under formulation, the meeting was

informed. On future course, Dr Mehta informed that under Stage-I, a report has been got prepared

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## Yasin Malik pleads guilty before Delhi court in terror related cases organisation) of the UAPA

and sections 120-B (criminal

conspiracy) and 124-A (sedi-

tion) of the Indian Penal

## STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Separatist leader Mohammad Yasin Malik on Tuesday pleaded guilty to all the charges, including those under the stringent Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA), before a Delhi court in a case related to alleged terrorism and secessionist activities that disturbed the Kashmir valley in 2017, court sources said.

They said Malik told the

court that he was not con-

testing the charges levelled

against him including section

16 (terrorist act), 17 (raising

funds for the terrorist act),

18 (conspiracy to commit

terrorist act), and 20 (being

member of terrorist gang or

Special Judge Praveen Singh, who had earlier held that it was prima facie established that Malik and others were the direct recipients of terror funds, will hear on May 19 the arguments regarding the quantum of sentence for the offences levelled against the accused in

which the maximum punishment is life imprisonment. The court had also said Malik had set up an elaborate structure and mechanism across the world to raise funds for carrying out

terrorist and other unlawful

activities in Jammu and Kashmir in the name of the freedom struggle

The court, meanwhile, formally framed the charges against Kashmiri separatist leaders including Farooq Ahmed Dar alias Bitta Karate, Shabbir Masarat Alam, Md Yusuf Shah, Aftab Ahmad Shah, Altaf Ahmad Shah, Nayeem Khan, Md Akbar Khanday, Raja Mehrajuddin Kalwal, Bashir Ahmad Bhat, Zahoor Ahmad Shah Watali, Shabir Ahmad Shah, Abdul Rashid Sheikh, and Naval Kishore Kapoor.

The charge sheet was also filed against Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) founder Hafiz

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## **Hold consultations with states on issue of** identification of minorities: SC to Centre

## **STATE TIMES NEWS**

DELHI: Supreme Court on Tuesday expressed displeasure over the Centre taking different stands on the issue of identification of minorities, including Hindus, at the state level and directed it to hold consultations with the states on the issue within three

months. In supersession of its earlier stand, the Centre had on Monday told the apex court that the power to notify minorities is vested with the Union government and any decision in this regard will be taken after discussion with states and other stakehold-

The Centre had in March said that it was for the states and Union Territories (UTs)

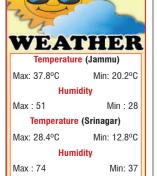
not to grant minority status to Hindus and other communities where they are less in number. A bench of Justices S K

to take a call on whether or

Kaul and M M Sundresh said in a matter like this an affidavit is filed that Centre and state both have powers. Later, you say the Centre

has powers. In a country like ours, which has so much diversification, we understand but somebody should have been more careful. Before these affidavits are filed everything is in public domain which has its own consequences. Therefore, you have to be more careful in what you say, the bench observed. Dictating it order, the bench said, a fresh

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Sunset: 19:20 Hours

Sunrise: 05:36 Hours