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

Paying tributes to Ist PVC Maj S N Sharma &

2nd PVC Naik J N Singh by dedicating

UU Srinagar & Jammu Airports to them

Six SHOs among 11 Insprs transferred

Air surcharge 50 paisa for Leh J&K Volleyball team leaves for Youth Nationals

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

# Road to J&K's prosperity has to pass through villages: LG

#### STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Saturday emphasized that the policies and development plans for districts and concerned departments must accord higher priority to rural development as the road to prosperity of the Union Territory of Jammu Kashmir has to pass through its villages.

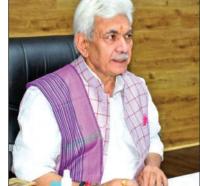
Highlighting the role of rural infrastructure, self-employment, and agrarian society, the Lt Governor observed that the concerned department's policies should be based on pragmatism in order to harness the tremendous potential of our villages.

"Around 70% of J&K's population is dependent on agriculture and allied activities. Today, the development in rural areas is not just about self-sufficiency in food production but also about increasing yields and income and making the people more empowered. It is also about making the villages self-sufficient because the road to J&K's prosperity has to pass through its villages," Lt Governor said.

The Lt Governor directed the concerned officers to adopt rural development policies which are based on pragmatism and strengthen the planning and

implementation at Panchayat level. "Each and every policy must improve





the lives of people living in villages. Today, more than 56,000 self-help groups are acting as facilitators of development. Our aim should be to enhance the capacity and scale of these groups with financial support, market linkage, special knowledge and skills that can be used to change the face of rural J&K," Lt Governor observed.

The Lt Governor highlighted the mega projects related to rural development, which have been completed in the previous financial year. These projects are in agriculture, animal sheep husbandry, tives, road, Power development, and Jal

While highlighting the achievements, the Lt Governor asked the officers to continuously focus on strengthening the economic relationship between farm & market to benefit the farmers and rural population. He further said that making the benefits of innovation, technologies available to the rural population and agrarian society should be the highest priority.

The Lt Governor observed that the steps taken by the government will integrate our rural areas into modern economic units and increased business opportunities in agro and rural industry can transform the rural economy.

"There is a scope for rural reforms at various levels. Products of rural areas must be commercialized for sustaining growth. Adequate attention should be paid to public-private partnership to increase the income of rural population and both farm and non-farm economy should be incentivized to create wellequipped and self-sufficient villages. Concerned officers and institutions must ensure access to affordable credit and huge investment being made in rural areas must translate into enhanced productivity," the Lt Governor further

### **Police constable** martyred in terror attack in Srinagar **■ STATE TIMES NEWS**

SRINAGAR: A police constable was martyred in terror attack here on Saturday, police said

"Around 8.40 am, terrorists fired at and critically injured JammuKashmir Police constable Ghulam Hassan near Ali Jan Road in Zoonimar area of the city," a police official said. The injured cop was

#### ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

### BSF opens fire after picking up Pakistani drone movement

#### along IB in Jammu STATE TIMES NEWS

The Border Security Force (BSF) on Saturday fired several rounds after picking up the movement of a Pakistani along International Border (IB) here, an official said.

The drone returned to the Pakistani side but a massive search operation was launched to ensure that there was no airdropping

# SIA carries out searches in Kashmir over misuse of SIMs for terror

#### STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: In a crackdown against the misuse of SIM cards by terrorists and their fraudulent sale by telecom vendors, the Jammu and Kashmir State Investigation Agency (SIA) on Saturday carried out searches at 19 premises across the Valley, officials said.

The searches came in the face of the ever-increasing misuse of SIM cards by terrorists", their over-ground workers (OGWs), narcotics smugglers and other criminals, they said.

The SIA in 11 different FIR cases carried out searches at 19 premises spread all over Kashmir, the officials said.

A majority of the premises belonged to the Point of Sale (POS) vendors who sold these SIM cards in violation of the Department of Telecom regulations and in a manner that amounts to forgery and cheating, they said.

ten years in Jammu and

Kashmir will also continue to

be considered domiciles, the

The implementation of sev-

eral path-breaking central

legislations after the revoca-

tion of Article 370, like the

Scheduled Tribes and Other

Traditional Forest Dwellers

(Recognition of Forests

Rights) Act, 2007, the

Scheduled Caste and the

(Prevention of Atrocities)

Act, 1954, among others, is

bringing a new era of

progress and development in

spokesperson said.

Scheduled

strongly indicated that SIM cards were procured to help terrorists in maintaining their communication with their handlers across the border and other modules inside

cases, preliminary evidence

Giving examples of the misuse, the officials said, a POS vendor in Chawalgam in Kulgam under the name M/S Airtel Micro World created a SIM card against a non-existent fictitious person namely Gowhar Ahmad Hajam and gave the card to a person in Qaimoh in Kulgam who turned out to be an OGW of terror outfit Ansar-Gazwatul-Hind.

In another case, a POS vendor at Mir Mohalla Monghall of Anantnag created a SIM card for a subscriber who handed it over to an OGW of Hizbul Mujahideen (HM) outfit, the officials said.

The houses of all the three -- the vendor, the subscriber and the OGW -- were

searched to look for addition al evidence, the officials said.

In a third instance, four PoS vendors -- one belonging to Konibal in Pampore, another to Walina, Ichgam in Budgam, the third one to Barzullah in Srinagar and forth one to Lasjan -- created SIMs in the name of real persons by stealing and misusing their identity documents, the officials said.

Subsequently, they said, these POS vendors fraudulently gave the SIM cards to unauthorised persons without the knowledge of the original persons.

Authorities have decided to take stringent measures against POS SIM card sellers who are found to be stealing identity documents of unsuspecting subscribers and creating SIM cards without the knowledge of original subscribers, the officials said. Similarly, PoS SIM card sellers who are found creat ing SIM cards on the

CONTD ON PAGE 9

# 22 locations designated for accommodation of Amarnath pilgrims in Samba

### **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Nearly two dozen locations have been designated for accommodation of Amarnath Yatra pilgrims in Samba district, an official spokesman said on Saturday.

Deputy Commissioner, Samba, Anuradha Gupta conducted a day-long tour of the 22 places identified and designated for the accommodation of the pilgrims, he

The 43-day yatra to the 3,880-metre high holy cave shrine of Amarnath is scheduled to start on June 30 from the twin routes -- traditional 48-km Nunwan in south Kashmir's Pahalgam and 14-

Cop injured in

accidental firing

soldier shoots self dead

policeman was injured in an

accidental firing in Budgam

district on Saturday, an offi-

Ahmad, posted in Khag area

of the Central Kashmir dis-

trict, received an injury on

his left foot as his rifle trig-

LPG price hiked

by Rs 50

NEW DELHI: Cooking gas

LPG prices were on

Saturday hiked by Rs 50 per

cylinder, the second increase

in rates in just over six weeks following the firming of

international energy rates.

Non-subsidised LPG now

costs Rs 999.50 per 14.2-kg

cylinder in the national capital, up from Rs 949.50 previ-

ously, according to a price

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

notification of

**STATE TIMES NEWS** 

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

gered accidentally while

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR/JAMMU:

cial said.

Constable

#### km shorter Baltal in central Kashmir's Ganderbal.

The spokesman said Gupta visited all the locations identified for lodging and refreshment of yatris in the district and directed the officers to take adequate measures in advance for smooth conduct of the yatra and complete the ongoing works. The locations identified

include government schools, college buildings, Nonath Ashram, temple premises at Ghagwal, Vijaypur, Barian, besides other places, the spokesman said, adding Gupta inspected the availability of basic amenities

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

# Extension of central laws post Article 370 abrogation established equitable society in J&K: Official

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Extension of central laws after the abrogation of Article 370 has established an equitable society across Jammu and Kashmir while the implementation of several legislations is bringing a new era of progress and development in the Union Territory, an official spokesperson said here on Saturday

With the extension of 890 central laws applicable to Jammu and Kashmir, repeal of 205 state laws and modification of 129 laws after the abrogation of Article 370, a system of equitable justice has been established in the UT for all sections of people, the Jammu and Kashmir administration official said.

He said the rights of weaker sections like Scheduled Tribes, other traditional forest dwellers. Scheduled Castes and safai karamcharis' are now ensured by the application of relevant Acts. Rights of children and senior citizens are now being ensured, he added.

In order to create a just and equitable society, reservation rules have been amended to extend benefits of reservation to left out categories like Pahari speaking

people and economically weaker sections, he said.

Sections of society like displaced persons of Pakistan-Occupied-Jammu Kashmir, Chhamb, West Pakistani refugees are getting due benefits with the extension of central laws, he

For the first time, the spouse of a Jammu and Kashmir domicile shall also be deemed as a domicile. Earlier. spouses Permanent Resident Card holders were considered at par but not domiciles. Children of central government officials posted for over

Jammu and Kashmir, ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Tribes

# Div Com Jammu

Ramesh Kumar takes over as

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Ramesh Kumar on Saturday took over as the Divisional Commissioner, Jammu.

The outgoing Divisional Commissioner, Dr Raghav Langer congratulated Ramesh Kumar for his new assignment and apprised him about the functioning of the Divisional Commissioner Office and various other important issues.

After taking over the charge, the new Divisional Commissioner interacted with the Officers and officials of Div Com office. Additional Commissioner,

Assistant Commissioners,

veil over obscure agenda at work: Farooq

Deputy Director Planning,

officers and other staff were present on the occasion. Meanwhile, an impressive function was also organised

to bid farewell to Dr Raghav Langer, the outgoing Divisional Commissioner.

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

# **Army Vice Chief pitches for indigenous** defence production

### **STATE TIMES NEWS**

UDHAMPUR: In a bid to ensure the country's selfreliance in defence, the Indian Army has signed contracts worth Rs 40,000 crore with indigenous defence manufacturers, Vice Chief of Army Staff Lieutenant General B S Raju said on Saturday. Lt Gen Raju, in his address to Army commanders, said henceforth, the "Acceptance of Necessity (AoN)" will only be given to indigenous defence manufacturers, adding that the direction "from the top" was very clear that the country had to fight any future war with



indigenous equipment.

The Ministry of Defence grants AoN for a particular weapon system or equipment at the beginning of the procurement process. This is part of the government's support to encourage the defence manufacturing industry in

the country, which is at a nascent stage. Inaugurating the North

Tech symposium, Lt Gen Raju said, "The Indian Army has entered into contracts worth Rs 40,000 crore with the indigenous defence industry during the last two vears.

The Army is working with the defence industry to design and develop over 39 solutions, of which 16 were in the proto-type development stage, he said.

In a word of support for the industry, the vice chief said, "You have some

CONTD ON PAGE 9

## 111 DvSPs adjusted

### **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Director General of Police (DGP), J&K Dilbag Singh, on Saturday ordered adjustment of 111 Deputy Superintends of Police (DySPs):-

According to PHQ order, Daljit Singh has been adjusted as DySP IR-19th Bn; Kuldeep Handoo as DySPSports APHQ; Akshay Khajouria as SO to DIG Railways Jammu; Saiad Hussain as DvSP JKAP-5th Bn; Anil Sagar as DySP IR-1st Bn; Farooq Ahmad as DySP IR-21st Bn: Mujahid Nazir as DvSP Traffic Baramulla/Kupwara; Abdul Hamid as DySP JKAP-3rd Bn; Sunil

# **Delimitation process smokescreen to draw**

#### **STATE TIMES NEWS** SRINAGAR: The delimitation process was a smoke-

screen to draw a veil over the obscure agenda at work and no amount of gerrymandering can change the ground situation in Jammu and National Kashmir, Conference president Farooq Abdullah said on Saturday.

He said the entire delimitation exercise has been blind to the universally accepted and practiced criteria and principles with regards to electoral representation.

The party's stand on the entire process of delimitation was crystal clear. The entire



process was a smokescreen to draw a veil over the obscure agenda at work, Abdullah said at Boteng in Kulgam district of south Kashmir where he had gone to offer

However, no amount of gerrymandering will save the BJP and its proxies from the wrath of people. People of J-K have made it a point to punish BJP and its proxies for all they have done to J-K. No matter how many false fronts they put up, people won't forgive those who have robbed the region of its unique status, its prized historical individuality and dignity. The writing is on the

Abdullah, who is also a Member of Parliament from

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

# **Delimitation Commission Report: Opposition** parties to discuss situation on Monday

## calls for developing hybrid learning STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on ly integrated with school Saturday advocated devel-

offline learning to avoid overexposure of schoolchildren to technology, as he chaired a high-level

meeting to review the implementation of the National Education Policy (NEP).

rolled out with the objecinclusivity and quality, he said, according to an official statement.

The new policy is being tives of access, equity,

Modi said the databases

maintained by anganwadi centres should be seamlessrecords as children move oping a hybrid system of there from anganwadis, and

> check-ups and screening in schools with the help of technology.

emphasis indigenously developed toys

to develop conceptual skills in students, he also suggested that secondary schools with science labs should engage with farmers in their area for soil testing, the statement said. Lauding

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

**STATE TIMES NEWS** 

JAMMU: Several opposition parties on Saturday jointly rejected the delimitation panel report as highly objectionable, biased and politically motivated and called for an emergency meeting here on However, many Gujjar and

Bakerwal organisations welcomed the reservation of nine assembly seats for Scheduled Tributes (STs) and thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi for it. The delimitation panel on

Jammu and Kashmir, formed in March 2020, on Thursday notified its final report giving six additional assembly seats to the Jammu region and one to the Kashmir Valley and bringing

areas of Rajouri and Poonch under the Anantnag parliamentary seat. The Jammu division will now have 43 assembly seats and the Kashmir division 47 in the 90-member house.

Jammu-based All Parties United Morcha (APUM), comprising Congress, Conference, National CPI(M), CPI besides several social organisations, rejected the final delimitation report, claiming that it is highly partisan, motivated and against all basic norms of delimitation like contiguity, connectivity, population, physical feature and public conven-

The commission has totally ignored the ground realities and neglected the convenience and aspirations of the people of different areas, the APUM said in a statement

It claimed that the exercise of the commission was an eye wash as the report was prepared at the behest of the ruling BJP. The APUM has called for

an emergency meeting on Monday to discuss the situation emerging after the highly objectionable report, the statement said and appealed to all like-minded parties and organisations to come together to raise their voice against the report. A large number of repre-

sentations were submitted by the general public and opposition parties within a short period of time after the pub-

lication of the draft report but hardly any genuine objections or representations were considered. Only an eye wash of public hearing was conducted without considering the most genuine objections, the statement said.

It said the commission had neglected the fundamental principles and norms and had done great injustice to different areas, segments and communities.

Separately, six Gujjar and Bakerwal organisations --Gurjar Desh Charitable Jammu, Research and Cultural Foundation Jammu, Akhil Bhartiya Gurjar Mahasabha , Jammu and Jammu Kashmir Gujjar

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

# family of a party leader.

wall, he said.

Srinagar, claimed there

### **Govt restructures** Agriculture **Production Deptt** STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: With the aim of

doubling farm income of farmers, orchardists and people dependent of animal. sheep husbandry and fisheries for their livelihood, the Government on Saturday ordered comprehensive restructuring of the government departments dealing these sectors. These activities engage around 70% of population of the UT and creation of a fully-fledged Agriculture Production Department by merging the three existing line departments namely Agriculture Production and Farmers Welfare, Animal, Sheep Husbandry & Fisheries and Horticulture is likely to synergize efforts of

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9



Sunrise: 05:38 Hours



Sunset: 19:18 Hours



Modi reviews NEP's implementation,

called for their regular health

Pitching for