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

Target killings aimed to foment unrest in region: LG

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

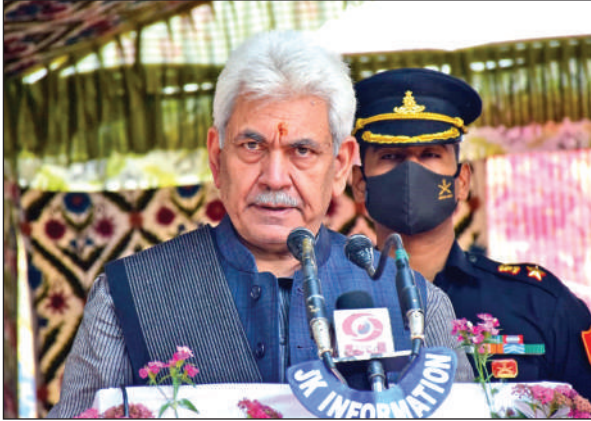
SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Saturday said that target killings in the valley were an act of desperation on part of the terrorists to provoke security forces to commit a mistake so that people can hit the streets in protest.

"The administration will not let that happen", Sinha added.

Target killings of innocent people have taken place. I believe the society should condemn it. A woman teacher, who imparts education to children, is killed, if the society does not condemn it, then I think, we are shirking away from our duties, Sinha said during a function in Kulgam district in south Kashmir.

He said the killings were an act of desperation.

These are acts of desperation. J-K administration follows the policy of gunahgaar ko chhodo mat, aur begunah ko chhodo mat' (Do not spare



LG Manoj Sinha speaking at a function in Kulgam on Saturday.

the culprit, but do not touch the innocent).

There will be no action against an innocent person by the police, security forces or the J-K administration, he added.

The militancy was in its last stage and when a candle is about to burn out, its flame flares bright, Sinha said.

'The flare' of militancy was intense as the police and security forces have tight-

ened the noose around them, the LG said, adding, it is our endeavour is to rid the people here of terrorism.

He said the road to progress and development goes through peace.

Calling upon people to condemn such attacks, the LG said that time has come for people to come forward and support police and security forces in their campaign to root out terrorism.

Earlier, the Lieutenant inaugurated Eklavya Model Residential School and laid foundation stone for a new Tribal Youth Hostel at Kulgam. He also inaugurated the District Civil Services Library cum Reading Room.

The Lt Governor said that projects worth Rs. 39.79 Crore under various tribal schemes are being implemented in Kulgam for upliftment of Tribal community.

The Lt Governor highlighted the government's efforts in empowering all the sections of the society, especially those who were neglected for decades, and making them key partners in J&K's development journey.

In the last 21 months, we have set in motion a growth process that will be able to eliminate issues like poverty, illiteracy and unemployment in the years to come and turn the weaker section into the wheels of national progress, the

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Suspected IED found in Baramulla

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Security forces on Saturday detected a suspected improvised explosive device (IED) along a highway in Baramulla district, officials said here.

They said a bomb disposal squad has reached the spot along the Srinagar-Baramulla highway, and the device would be detonated.

"Security forces detected a suspected IED kept in a bag on the roadside at Bulgam Hygam Tarzoo area of the north Kashmir district," an official said.

DGPC ELECTIONS: 134 out of 190 constituencies uncontested

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The government on Saturday notified the status of District Gurdwara Prabandhak Committees (DGPC) Elections in Jammu and Kashmir, slated for 26th June, after withdrawal of nomination papers.

The Government summarised that out of total

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Curfew in parts of Chenab Valley; efforts on to defuse tension

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BHADARWAH/JAMMU: A curfew clamped in parts of Jammu's Chenab valley was in effect on Saturday, while a day-long shutdown called against recent remarks on Prophet Mohammad by two now-suspended BJP leaders disrupted life in the Peer Panchal region, officials said.

Even as efforts were intensified to defuse communal tension, prominent citizens from both the communities requested the government to take strict action against "mischievous elements" bent on disturbing peace.

Broadband and mobile internet services remained suspended in several areas, including Bhaderwah and Kishtwar towns, as a precautionary measure.

Tension had mounted in Bhaderwah township of Doda district and some areas of nearby Kishtwar and Ramban districts of Chenab valley region, prompting the authorities to impose restric-

Process on to identify people behind communal tension: Div Com

BHADARWAH/JAMMU: Advising people to avoid irrespon-

sible comments on social media, a senior government official on Saturday said strict action as per law will be taken against the people who stoke communal tension in Jammu region's Chenab valley leading to the imposition of curfew and restrictions to maintain peace.

Divisional Commissioner, Jammu, Ramesh Kumar also said efforts are on to restore complete peace in the region with the cooperation of the public.

Kumar, along with Additional Director General of Police, Jammu, Mukesh Singh, visited the curfew-bound areas of Doda and Kishtwar for the second day in running to take stock of the situation. He said police

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Divisional Commissioner, Jammu, Ramesh Kumar briefing media at Doda.

tions under section 144 of the CrPC late Thursday evening.

A curfew was subsequently clamped in Bhaderwah and some other parts of Doda

district along with Kishtwar town as a precautionary measure, the officials said, adding that barring a stone-pelting incident

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Protests over remarks on Prophet Two dead in Ranchi, Howrah simmers, authorities take action against protesters in UP, other states

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RANCHI/KOLKATA/LUC KNOW: Two persons succumbed to gunshot wounds in Jharkhand capital Ranchi and fresh violence broke out in West Bengal's Howrah on Saturday as tension prevailed in several parts of the country a day after the riotous protests against the controversial remarks by BJP's now-sacked two functionaries on Prophet Mohammad.

Authorities suspended the Internet and tightened security in the affected districts as they cracked down on protesters allegedly involved in

the violence and clashes with police personnel, with over 250 people arrested in Uttar Pradesh alone.

Cases have been also registered in Delhi, Maharashtra and other states where people held massive protests after Friday prayers demanding the arrest of former BJP spokesperson Nupur Sharma and Naveen Kumar Jindal.

While a bandh was observed on Saturday in the Jharkhand capital on a call by Hindu outfits against the violence, around 2,500 police personnel were deployed

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Two terrorists shot dead in Kulgam, Pulwama Arms, ammunition seized in Anantnag, 2 arrested

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Two terrorists were killed in two separate encounters with security forces in Kulgam and Pulwama districts on Saturday, police said.

Acting on specific information regarding the presence of a terrorist in village Khandipora area of Kulgam, a cordon and search operation was launched by the security forces there, a police spokesman said.

During the search operation, as the search party approached towards the suspected spot, the hiding terrorist fired indiscriminately



upon the forces, which was retaliated effectively leading to an encounter; he said.

However, in order to evacuate the civilians trapped

12 new COVID cases reported in J&K

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir reported 12 new coronavirus cases on Saturday, taking the infection tally in the union territory to 4,54,337, officials said here.

Four cases were reported from Jammu division while eight cases were reported from Kashmir valley, they said.

There are 81 active cases of the disease in the union territory, while the number of recoveries has reached 4,49,504, the officials said.

The COVID-19 death toll in the union territory stands at 4,752 as no fresh

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Veteran journalist Ashok Pahalwan is no more



■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Senior journalist and former Correspondent of Reuter Ashok Pahalwan died here on Saturday.

Ashok Pahalwan, 65 was currently the editor of Scoop News.

Belonging to a Kashmiri Pandit family from Manasbal area of Ganderbal district in the Valley, Ashok spent most of his life in Sathu Barabarshah area of old Srinagar city.

He migrated to Jammu in early 1990s and for the last 23 years, he lived in the Tourist Reception

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Rooftop Solar Scheme, adoption of rate schedule for engineering departments in J&K approved

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The Administrative Council (AC), which met here under the chairmanship of Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, has approved the installation of 200 MW of grid-tied rooftop solar power plants under the "Solar City Mission" in Jammu.

Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to the Lieutenant Governor; Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary, J&K and Nitishwar Kumar, Principal Secretary to the Lieutenant Governor attended the meeting.

The decision has been

taken to implement the Government of India's Grid-connected Rooftop Solar Scheme, Phase-II for the residential sector in Jammu and Kashmir to ensure that the electricity needs of the city are fully met from solar energy.

Under the project, 200 MW grid-tied rooftop solar power plants will be installed on 50,000 residential buildings in Jammu city by the Jammu and Kashmir Energy Development Agency (JAKEDA) under its "Solar City Mission" at an estimated cost of Rs 1040 crore. The project will be completed by

March, 2024 and will have a lifetime of 25 years.

The Rooftop Solar Programme will provide subsidized installation of solar power panels on residential houses at the cost of Rs. 58,739, Rs. 53,995, Rs. 52,594, and Rs. 51,309 for Category-A (Up to 1 kW), Category-B (> 1 kW to 2 kW), Category-C (> 2kW up to 3 kW), and Category-D (> 3 kW up to 10 kW), respectively.

The Central Sector Scheme provides a central subsidy component of 40% of the project cost and a state

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J&K gets Rs 100 Cr reward for achieving 100 pc rural electrification before deadline

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir has bagged reward worth Rs 100 crore from the Government of India for achieving the target of 100 per cent electrification ahead of timeline.

Pertinently, the Union Territory had achieved another milestone under Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana 'Saubhagya' with J&K accomplishing the 100 per cent target of rural electrification that too before deadline.

Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, launched Saubhagya scheme on 25th September 2017 to achieve universal household electrification covering every village and every

district in the country. The scheme outlay was Rs 16,320 crore including gross budgetary support of Rs 12,320 crore.

The scheme provided last mile connectivity and electricity connections to all un-electrified households in rural areas besides providing Solar Photo Voltaic (SPV) based standalone system for un-electrified households located in remote and inaccessible villages/ habitations.

The J&K Power Department Development proactively worked hard in ensuring electrification to every village which is visible from the fact that almost 3,57,405 households have been electrified in whole of the UT.

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Govt keeping eye on those triggering communal violence: Athawale

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Union minister Ramdas Athawale on Saturday appealed to people, especially Muslims, to maintain peace amid widespread protests over recent controversial remarks on Prophet Mohammad by two BJP leaders.

The Union minister of state for Social Justice and empowerment also said the government and police are keeping an eye on those trying to trigger communal violence in the country.

"The BJP has already taken action against the two leaders and therefore, there is no need for an agitation. People need to maintain calm," Athawale told reporters here.

Without naming Nupur Sharma and Naveen Jindal, who made the controversial



remarks on the Prophet, he said whatever had happened was not in good taste as the sentiments of people were hurt.

Sharma has since been suspended by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), while Jindal has been expelled.

"There was a communal flare-up in the aftermath of (the demolition of) the Babri masjid. Then the issue was amicably resolved by the

Supreme Court.... We appeal to both the communities to exercise restraint and maintain peace as was the case after the court verdict on the Ram temple," Athawale said.

He said since the saffron party has already taken action against the two leaders, people need to overcome the hurt sentiments for the overall welfare of the society.

Asked whether there are deliberate attempts to trigger communal tension in the country, the Union minister said the Centre is alive to the situation and is investigating all the incidents.

"The government and police have their eyes on the elements trying to create communal tension and will act in accordance with law," he added. Athawale said the Centre wants a peaceful

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WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)

Max: 43.1°C Min: 28.5°C

Humidity

Max : 29 Min : 15

Temperature (Srinagar)

Max: 25.4°C Min: 13.3°C

Humidity

Max : 71 Min: 16

Sunset : 19:39 Hours

Sunrise : 05:23 Hours

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Corporate Headquarters

M.A. Road Srinagar

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