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STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Battle lines

were drawn on Tuesday for

the July 18 presidential elec-

tion with the BJP-led NDA

naming Droupadi Murmu, a

tribal leader from Odisha, as

its candidate while former

Union minister Yashwant

Sinha was declared as a joint

parties, including the

Congress, the NCP and the

BJP president J P Nadda

announced the candidature

of 64-vear-old Murmu, for-

mer Jharkhand governor, fol-

lowing a meeting of the

party's parliamentary board,

hours after opposition par-

ties in a joint statement

named Sinha, who was earli-

er with the BJP but fell out

with the Modi-Shah leader-

ship and joined the

Trinamool Congress in

International Yoga Day

Three theft/ snatching cases solved; 6 arrested, stolen items recovered

Graph of terrorism going down in J&K, reflects success of PM's visionary policies: Tarun Chugh

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

celebrated at JKPS Kunjwani Droupadi Murmu, tribal leader from Odisha,

is BJP's choice for presidential poll

Assassin of police officer among 4 terrorists killed in 2 encounters at Kashmir

Hybrid ultra, 3 terrorist associates of LeT arrested

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: A Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) terrorist was among four ultras killed in two separate encounters with security forces in Pulwama and Baramulla districts on Tuesday, police said.

Security forces launched a cordon and search operation in Tulibal village in Baramulla's Sopore area following information about the presence of terrorists there, a police spokesperson said.

He said the search operation turned into an encounter after the terrorists opened fire at the security forces, who retaliated. In the ensuing encounter, two terrorists of proscribed terror outfit LeT were killed and their bodies were retrieved from the site of encounter. They have been identified as Zahid Ahmad Chopan resident of Tengwani Shopian and Mohd Youns Gul resident of

Washbugh Pulwama.



the killed terrorists had joined terror folds recently.

Incriminating materials, arms and ammunition including two AK-47 rifles and four Magazines have been recovered from the site of encounter. All the recovered materials have been taken into case records for further investigation.

Regarding both the incidents, Police have registered cases under relevant sections of law and investigation has Police till the areas are completely sanitized and cleared off of all the explosive materi-

als, if any Two terrorists were killed in another encounter that broke out in Tujjan in south Kashmir's Pulwama, the spokesperson said.

In the ensuing encounter, two terrorists of proscribed terror outfit JeM were killed and their bodies were retrieved from the site of identified as Abid Ahmad Sheikh resident of Barpora Pulwama and Majid Nazir Wani resident of Banpora Ladoo Pampore.

As per police records, both the killed terrorists were part of group involved in several terror crime cases including attacks on security forces and civilian atrocities.

Inspector General of Police, Kashmir, Vijay Kumar said one of the slain terrorists has been identified as Majid Nazir Jaish-e-Mohammad.

He said Nazir was involved in the killing of Sub-Inspector Farooq Ahmad Mir a few days ago.

Meanwhile, security forces arrested a "hybrid terrorist" of the Lashkar-e-Taiba outfit in Baramulla district while three terrorist associates were held in Budgam district, police said on Tuesday. Acting on specific

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J&K Home Deptt sanctions creation of 252 posts for SIA STATÉ TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir's Department accorded sanction to creation of 252 posts for the newly-created State Investigation Agency (SIA) on Tuesday.

Additional Chief Secretary (Home), R K Goyal, issued an order, sanctioning the creation of the posts that includes one post of DIG, three senior superintendents

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Azad tests positive for COVID-19

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Senior Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad on Tuesday said he has tested positive for COVID-19 and been advised home quarantine by doctors. The former leader of opposition in the Rajya Sabha

made the announcement on Several people, including colleague, party Rajasthan Chief Minister

Ashok Gehlot, wished him

Murmu (64), a former Jharkhand governor, will be the first tribal woman to

March 2021.

post if she is elected, a strong possibility as numbers are stacked in favour of the BJPled National Democratic Alliance (NDA).

With her nomination, the BJP is sending out a signifi-



cant political message after elevating a Dalit, Ram Nath Kovind, to the top post five years back.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said Murmu has devoted her life to serving society and expressed confidence that she will be a "great President".

"Droupadi Murmu Ji has

Yashwant Sinha joint oppn's nominee devoted her life to serving society and empowering the poor, downtrodden as well as the marginalised. She has rich administrative experience and had an outstanding gubernatorial tenure. I am confident she will be a great President of our nation.

> "Millions of people, especially those who have experienced poverty and faced hardships, derive great strength from the life of Smt. Droupadi Murmu Ji. Her understanding of policy matters and compassionate nature will greatly benefit our country," Modi tweeted. Considered soft-spoken and

> affable, the leader, who comes from Mayurbhanj, one of the more backward regions of Odisha, has held various positions in the party, rising through the ranks, and was a minister in the state when the BJP was in alliance with the ruling Biju Janata Dal (BJD). The BJD, which

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Bank robbery case solved in 24 hours; Rs 1.53 cr recovered, 1 held



SSP Kathua, R C Kotwal briefing media on Tuesday.

STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA/JAMMU: A man was arrested and over Rs 1.53 crore stolen from a bank was recovered in Jammu and Kashmir's

ED questions Rahul Gandhi

for over 11 hours on day 5;

no fresh summons issued

NEW DELHI: Congress

leader Rahul Gandhi was

over 11 hours on Tuesday,

the fifth day of his deposition

in the National Herald

The Congress MP from

Wayanad (Kerala) spent a

total of about 54 hours at the

ED office over five sittings

Shooting stones disrupt

vehicular traffic on

Jammu-Srinagar highway

Rains bring mercury

down in J&K

Srinagar national highway

was closed for traffic on

Tuesday due to the falling of

stones from hilltops in

Ramban district following

Temperature (Srinagar)

Sunset: 19:42 Hours

Sunrise: 05:25 Hours

Max: 15.0°C

Max: 93

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incessant rainfall,

STATE TIMES NEWS BANIHAL: The Jammu-

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money laundering case.

with the investigators

bvEnforcement Directorate for

STATE TIMES NEWS

questioned

Another accused in the case is absconding and a hunt is on to nab him, they said "We have cracked a

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Kathua district, police said.

LG, Union MoS participate in Int'l Day of Yoga celebrations at Dal Lake LG calls for embracing Yoga as integral part of life for holistic health

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and Union Minister of State for Panchayati Raj, Kapil Moreshwar Patil along with hundreds of people on Tuesday participated in the International Day of Yoga celebrations at the iconic Dal

Prime Minister Narendra Modi led the nation-wide celebrations from Mysuru Palace Grounds, Karnataka, which hosted the main event of mass Yoga demonstration. The Prime Minister's Yoga programme at Mysuru is also part of the novel 'Guardian

CJ Mithal inaugurates 8th Int'l Yoga Day

celebration at High Court Srinagar



in International Day of Yoga celebrations at the iconic Dal Lake.

Ring' programme which is a collaborative exercise between 79 countries and United Nations organisations along with Indian Missions abroad to illustrate

Yoga's unifying power that surpasses National bound-

Celebrations for 8th International Day of Yoga were held at 75 iconic Sites

Greeting the people on

Police attach 5 houses in Srinagar for

SRINAGAR: Police on Tuesday attached five residential houses here, which were allegedly used for harbouring terrorists, under Unlawful Activities

(Prevention) Act. "Today on 21st June 2022, five residential houses of wilful harbourers of terrorists were attached as per section 2(g) and section 25 of UAP Act," Srinagar police said in a statement.

Police said the houses were attached after it has been proved beyond doubt that these houses were used for purpose of terrorism and

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across the country as a part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav. Apart from Dal Lake, people in large numbers gathered at BOP Suchetgarh, Jammu and Martand Sun Temple Anantnag, Kashmir for mass Yoga Demonstrations.

The International Yoga Day celebrations in J&K witnessed the participation of eminent personalities, Yoga Gurus, experts of Yoga and allied science, Yoga enthusiasts, members of youth clubs, teachers and students in large numbers.

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ACB books Naib Tehsildar, others for illegally changing type of land by the then Revenue officers, STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) Jammu has registered a case against then Naib Tehsildar & Girdawar Niabat Sohal Akhnoor for illegally changing type of land measuring approximately 58 Kanals and 16 Marlas.

According to ACB, a verification conducted to look into allegations regarding change in kind of land from Gair Mumkin Khad to Waryal Awal in Khasra No 99 (measuring 58 Kanals 16 Marlas) situated at Badgal Khurd Tehsil Akhnoor and in Khasra No. 344 situated at Dhok Jagir Tehsil Akhnoor

it revealed that then Naib Tehsildar Bharat Bhushan posted at Niabat Sohal in connivance with other revenue officials have changed kind of land from Gair-Mumkin-Khad/Roar Warval Doam in Khasra No. 99 and in Khasra No. 344 situated at Dhok Jagir Tehsil Akhnoor, illegally which he was not competent to do. Due to their illegal acts, the beneficiaries sold land to other persons and thereby it changed ownership/possession of the aforementioned land in question.

According to FIR, ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

PM leads Yoga Day celebrations, says it is forming basis for int'l cooperation 'harbouring' terrorists **STATE TIMES NEWS**

STATE TIMES NEWS

MYSURU: Prime Minister Narendra Modi performed Yoga along with thousands of participants at a mass demonstration in the backdrop of the iconic Mysuru Palace here on Tuesday and said the physical fitness regime was forming a basis for cooperation among countries, and that it can become a problem-solver.

Leading the main event of the International Day of Yoga (IDY) here, Modi said Yoga brings peace to our universe and gave the hope of a healthy life to humanity. "Yoga brings peace for us,



PM Narendra Modi participating in mass Yoga demonstration at Mysore Palace Ground in Mysuru, Karnataka.

the peace from Yoga is not only for individuals, Yoga brings peace to our society. nation, the world and the universe," Modi said, quoting maharshis

acharyas. Speaking after inaugurat ing the grand event at 'Amba Vilas Palace' here, he said, "this might feel like

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International Yoga Day celebrations at High Court Srinagar.

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Chief Justice High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh,

Tuesday inaugurated the 8th International Yoga Day at High Court Complex here.

The theme of this year's Justice Pankaj Mithal on Yoga Day is 'Yoga for

Humanity'. The Chief Justice stressed

upon all the participants to include Yoga in their daily life to remain physically and mentally fit besides relieving themselves from stressful Justice Pankaj Mithal

highlighted that making yoga a way of life would go a long way in the discharge of judicial functions and enhancing the efficiency and efficacy of not only the judicial officers but also all the stakeholders. Likewise, a programme was

held at High Court

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The Congress' kid-glove policy towards Kashmir and Kashmiri leaders was, in the words of Penderal Moon, bound to "excite powerful appetites and individual hopes" in Kashmir and "these, once aroused, would not be readily assuaged" (India: Divide and Quit). This precisely happened in Kashmir. PM Lal Bahadur Shastri did try to halt the process of drift in Kashmir in 1965 by bringing J&K under the ambit of Supreme Court, Election Commission and Comptroller General and by rendering Sheikh Abdullah's National Conference, a protagonist of greater autonomy bordering on sovereignty, unreal and ineffective. Unfortunately, his successor Indira Gandhi much to the chagrin of the nation reversed the process in February 1975 by bringing back to power the deflated Sheikh whom her father Nehru had got dismissed as Wazir-e-Azam and arrested on August 9, 1953 under the sedition

Not that the ruling class in Delhi of self-rule, Mehbooba Mufti. But all these were power-sharing accords, notwithCongress and the BJP that these agree ments were reached in the "national interest". Not one accord or agreement was aimed at integrating J&K into India or promoting politics based on democratic and economic issues. As a matter of fact, all these accords, instead of bridging the gulf between Kashmir and New Delhi, fur ther widened it. The ruling elite in New Delhi not just

hobnobbed with controversial Kashmiri leaders but also accorded a special financial treatment to Kashmir ostensibly to keep the Muslims of Kashmir in good humour. Believe it or not, but it's a fact that J&K received 10% of all Central grants given to states over the 2000-2016 period, despite having only 01% of the country's population. In contrast, UP, which makes up about 13% of the country's population, received only 8.2% of Central grants in 2000-2016. In other words, J&K having a population of 12.55 million as per the 2011 census received Rs ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

ailment still remains undiagnosed Kashmir's en in Kashmir and it did happen. Things with the votaries of Pakistan but turned

PROF HARI OM

JAMMU: 550-odd princely states acceded to India in 1947 as per the constitutional law on the subject. J&K was one such state. The process of integration into India of almost all princely states was fast and almost smooth. As for J&K, sadly, it was highly painful and very slow. The process is still on. The fundamental reason: Instead of promoting the forces of democracy in J&K, Delhi handed over the state power to those in Kashmir whose concept of India and on India was completely different; who would muddy the Indian waters in Kashmir to widen the gulf between the people of Kashmir (read Muslims) and the rest of the countrymen. Delhi sidelined the forces of democracy in J&K.

To be more exact, Delhi considered the Kashmir's majority community as a race apart. It also didn't consider J&K an integral part of India to the same extent as other princely states. It threw in the lot of J&K with that Kashmiri leadership which earlier had tried to link the Kashmir's fate

towards JL Nehru after they failed to negotiate the Kashmir's and their own political status with Muslim League leaders, MA Jinnah and Liaquat Ali Khan, vis-à-vis Pakistan.

The exigency of the time, the need of the nation, the nature and ideology of the Kashmiri leadership and the country's geo-political interests warranted a very careful handling of the sensitive border state of J&K. But PM Nehru further messed up things. In October 1949, his government drove J&K away from the national mainstream through Article 306A (read Article 370). In May 1954, it bypassed the Parliament and applied Article 35A to J&K, which declared all non-Kashmiris, including President and Prime Minister of India, a persona-nongrata in J&K. In between (1952), PM Nehru held talks with J&K Wazir-e-Azam Sheikh Abdullah on the state's political status vis-à-vis India. In 1952, the Sheikh had openly challenged the Indian state; he had made his intentions clear that he

would not accept anything short of "Switzerland-type Independent Kashmir".

It was expected that things would wors-

(Congress and BJP) didn't enter into accords with Kashmiri leaders of all hues. It did enter. Take, for example, the 1975 accord between Indira Gandhi and ardent believer in the concept of Kashmiri subnationalism, Sheikh Abdullah; the 1984 accord between her and a bitter critic of all central laws, GM Shah; the 1986 accord between PM Rajiv Gandhi and pro-autonomy NC president Farooq Abdullah; the November 2002 accord between the Congress and pro-self-rule Mufti Sayeed; the 2009 accord between the Congress and Farooq Abdullah and his son Omar Abdullah; the March 2015 accord between BJP and Mufti Sayeed; and the April 2016 accord between the BJP and votary

standing the loud assertions by the

started going out of control in Kashmir

with each passing day after 1974. The

party politics and insatiable lust for power

and pelf further aggravated the situation.

91,300 per person while UP received Rs 4,300 per person