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Air surcharge 50 paisa for Leh India maintain winning spree in 3rd AVC Women's Challenge Cup, beat Uzbekistan 3-0

ADGP Mukesh Singh seeks support of every section of society

Regular commercial tourist traffic Valley via Basohli-Bhaderwah-Kishtwar is still a question?

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

phase of strikes and shutdowns and vio-

lence, then those days which were very

I appeal to people to remain cautious

of these elements. They are not your

friends, they want to create hurdles in

the way to peace on the directions from

the outside. There is a very less number

of such people and I want to tell you that

our administration and security forces

are committed to protect the common

man. We will not touch the innocent,

that is our policy, but it is our policy as

well that the culprits will not be spared

The LG appealed to people to stand

with the government to take J-K on the

I assure you that we will not rest till we

make J-K a progressive region, he

Meanwhile, during his meeting with

the industry leaders and representatives

of various Industries Associations from

across Jammu and Kashmir, the

Lieutenant Governor observed that it

has been the constant endeavour of the

UT Government to boost the investment

climate, fulfill Prime Minister's vision of

path to peace and prosperity.

in any way, he said.

painful, may have to be seen again.

LG meets industry leaders from J&K

# Hosting G-20 summit privilege for J&K: Sinha

### **STATE TIMES NEWS**

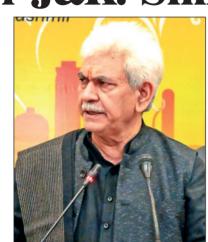
SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Saturday said it was a matter of privilege for the union territory for hosting the G-20 summit in 2023 and asserted that the administration would put in every effort to make it a

Jammu and Kashmir will be hosting the 2023 meetings of G-20, an influential grouping that brings together the world's major economies, with the union territory administration on Thursday setting up a five-member high-level committee for overall coordination.

This will be the first major international summit to be held in J and K after its special status guaranteed under Article 370 of the Constitution was withdrawn and the erstwhile state was divided into two union territories in August 2019.

It is a very good beginning. It is a matter of privilege for us that we will get the opportunity to host the G-20 summit. We have framed a committee and we will put in all our efforts to make it grand, Sinha told reporters here.

Earlier in the day, the Lt Governor said the development in the UT can hap-



pen only in a peaceful environment.

If there is no peace, then rest assured no power on earth can bring in development to the place. There are some people who do not like this. They do not want peace here, they want violence. J-K's welfare is in this, we can progress and come closer to or overcome other nations only when there is peace here, he said.

Sinha said if the UT returns to the

### J&K Police Women **Border Bn Exam today**

### **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: The Written Test for Constables in Border Battalions in J&K Police stands for June 26, 2022 (Sunday) at 11:00AM.

However, in social media, a fake order was circulated on Saturday evening that the written test is to be conducted on July 3, 2022. The Police clarified saying that the circulated order is fake and the written test will be held as per schedule on June 26, 2022.

Police has launched a manhunt to track down the rumour mongers.

### **Encounter breaks** out in Shopian

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: An encounter broke out between security forces and militants in Shopian district Saturday, police said.

forces The security launched a search and cordon operation in the Shirmal area of south Kashmir's Shopian after receiving specific inputs about the

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## Massive searches carried out along IB ahead of Amarnath Yatra

Unprecedented security arrangements made due to higher threat perception this year

#### **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU/SRINAGAR: Security forces on Saturday carried out a massive search operation along International Border (IB) in Jammu and Kashmir to detect cross-border tunnels and prevent any infiltration attempts by terrorists during the Amarnath Yatra, officials

The search operation was jointly carried out by Police, CRPF, and BSF in the forward villages in Samba, Kathua, and Jammu districts, the officials said.

The 43-day-long Amarnath Yatra is scheduled to start on June 30 from two routes -the traditional 48-km Nunwan in south Kashmir's Pahaloam and a 14-km shorter route from Baltal in central Kashmir's Ganderbal -- after a two-year break forced by the COVID pan-

Various intelligence inputs



Security forces carrying out search operation along border in Samba on Saturday.

planning to infiltrate from across the border to disrupt yatra, Superintendent of Police (operations), Samba, G R

Bhardwaj said. Bhardwaj, who was leading the joint search operation, said that about 8-km area from Suchetgarh border to Regal was combed by the joint forces with a focus on detecting any possible crossborder tunnel which might have been dug from across the border by terrorists to

infiltrate

He said the forces searched all unattended areas during the operation, which is part of the unprecedented security arrangements made for the upcoming yatra.

We are alert to the threat and have stepped up area domination patrols, search operations, and night vigils to thwart any attempt by terrorists to disrupt the yatra, Bhardwaj said, adding that additional checkpoints

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### Police solves SI Farooq Ahmad's assassination case; 3 arrested

arrested in the instant case

and have been identified as

Arsalaan Bashir alias Faisal,

son of Bashir Ahmad Dar,

Tawkeer Manzoor son of

Manzoor Ahmad Mir and

Owais Mushtaq son of

Mushtaq Ahmad Ganie, all

During the course of inves-

tigation, it was revealed that

the accused trio had hatched

a criminal conspiracy with

one terrorist namely Majid

Nazir Wani of Ladhoo (killed

in Tujjan Pulwama operation

on June 21,2022) and had

extended corroborated sup-

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

port to the said terrorist

STATE TIMES NEWS

Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar

Mehta on Saturday stressed

upon the health officers to

take every measure to

restrict the spread of covid-

19 here in the UT. He asked

them to intensify the tracing,

SRINAGAR:

Samboora

of

residents

Pampore.

### **STATE TIMES NEWS**

SRINAGAR: Police Awantipora have solved the case of SI Farooq Ahmad's assassination by arresting accused persons involved in the commission of crime. Incriminating material including a pistol recovered from their possession.

During the course of investigation of case FIR No. 71/2022 of PS Pampore pertaining to martyrdom of SI Farooq Ahmad at Samboora Pampore, several suspects were called for questioning. However, the three suspects were zeroed in and whose role in the case was proved. Subsequently, they were

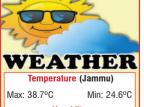
### Timber smuggler booked under PSA in Bhadarwah, 45 banned cutters seized, 3 arrested ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BHADARWAH: In a major crackdown against Timber mafia. A notorious timber smuggler was arrested under the Public Safety Act (PSA) Bhadarwah Forest Division, beside 45 banned mechanical cutters were seized and three more arrested on Saturday, officials said.

Giving details, Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) Bhadarwah, Chander Shekhar said that the timber smuggler Masood Ahmed son Ghulam Hussain of village Batara in Phigsoo tehsil, was involved in timber smuggling since 2012 and several cases were registered against him

"He was several times summoned to Divisional Forest Office Bhadarwah and Range office Thathri but never turned up and instead used to intimidate the forest officials," he said.

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Max : 58 Min · 31 Temperature (Srinagar) Max: 30.6°C

Max: 71 Min: 29 Sunset: 19:43 Hours Sunrise: 05:24 Hours

### LoC to infiltrate into J&K: Army **STATE TIMES NEWS**

SRINAGAR: There are about 150 terrorists present at the launchpads across the Line of Control (LoC) ready to infiltrate into Jammu and Kashmir while 500 to 700 more are undergoing training at eleven terror camps there, a senior Army officer said on Saturday.

He said security forces have successfully thwarted infiltration attempts by the terrorists along the LoC in the Valley.

There are about 500 to 700 people at the 11 training camps at Manshera, Kotli and Muzaffarabad across the

Take every measure to restrict spread of virus: CS

testing and inoculation of

precautionary dose to people

especially to those with

He made these remarks in

a high level meeting of health

officers to review the Covid-

19 scenario in the UT in view

of rising cases in some States

comorbid conditions.

### 'Security situation in Kashmir under control'

150 terrorists ready at launchpads across

SRINAGAR: The overall security situation in the Kashmir valley is better and "very much under control", and attacks on soft targets are taking place as terrorists are under pressure and have been pushed to the wall, a senior Army officer said

"The situation is better. There is nothing to worry," the officer, who did not wish to be identified, said.

Describing the current phase in the valley as "sensitive", he said many things have been brought under control by the security apparatus in the Union territory. The officer said peace cannot be achieved by only killing ter-

rorists as "there are other things which have to go along with kinetic operations and on which we have to work". "But the overall situation is very much under control," he

added. Referring to the recent spurt in  $\quad\blacksquare$  CONTD ON PAGE 9

LoC, the Army officer, who said. did not wish to be named, As per the intelligence

J&K reports 65

fresh COVID cases

SRINAGAR: Jammu and

Kashmir on Saturday

recorded 65 fresh Covid

cases, 46 from Jammu divi-

sion and 19 from the

Kashmir Valley, thus taking

the total number of positive

cases to 454742. According

to the daily Media Bulletin,

out of 454742 positive cases,

The meeting was attended

by Principal Secretary,

Education; Director SKIMS;

and

Mission Director, NHM,

of the country.

Health

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■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Medical

### Traffic movement resumes on Jammu-Srinagar NH; landslide blocks Mughal Road

# ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Two-way traffic resumed on the 270-km-long Jammu-Srinagar National Highway on Saturday after remaining suspended for four days due to landslides, officials said.

There was, however, a fresh landslide which blocked Mughal Road an alternate surface link connecting Kashmir with Jammu.

Hundreds of vehicles stranded on the national highway since Tuesday evening were cleared after landslide debris was removed Samroli area Udhampur district

inputs, he said, there are about 150 terrorists at the launchpads in Pakistan Occupied Kashmir ready to infiltrate into J and K.

The officer said there has been no successful infiltration along the LoC in the valley so far this year.

Till May end, everything has been taken care of. There was a particular group which had come and you are aware that it got eliminated at Bandipora and Sopore, he said, referring to the killing of foreign terrorists in encounters with the security

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#### youth to shun terrorism 'SFs getting incentives for killing them' STATE TIMES NEWS "It is my request to the par-SRINAGAR: PDP chief

**NEW RANT:** Mehbooba urges Kashmiri

Mehbooba Mufti on Saturday appealed to the youth of Kashmir to shun terrorism and save their lives, claiming security forces were getting incentives for killing them.

Mehbooba said Jammu and Kashmir was going through a tumultuous phase and in the times to come, it will need its youth.

"I hear every day that three or four youths have been killed, which means the local recruitment here has increased," she told reporters

ents and the children to save their lives because killing you is an incentive for them (security forces). They get money and promotions for that, she alleged.

So, do not pick up arms. They kill four-five (militants) every day... I appeal to you this is not right and you should leave it, the PDP president said.

Referring to the protests by Kashmiri Pandits over the target killings of the members of the community, she said people, including religious leaders, should

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# Sadhus upbeat over Amarnath Yatra, say terror threat 'non-issue'

### **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Scheduled to start next week after a break of two years due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the annual Amarnath Yatra is expected to witness large participation of devotees including sadhus and sadhvis who have started arriving here from different parts of the country.

Hundreds of the holy men and women are camping at the base camp Ram Mandir in the old city's Purani Mandi area and are upbeat over the resumption of the pilgrimage to finally have darshan' of Barfani Baba', pointing to the naturally formed ice-shivlingam at the 3,880-metre holy cave of Amarnath in south Kashmir Himalayas.

The 43-day-long yatra is scheduled to start on June 30 from the twin routes -- traditional 48-km Nunwan in south Kashmir's Pahalgam and 14-km shorter Baltal in cen-



tral Kashmir's Ganderbal. The first batch of pilgrims including sadhus will leave for the twin base camps of Kashmir from Bhagwati Nagar and Ram Mandir in Jammu, a day ahead of the start of the vatra.

Unprecedented security arrangements have been put in place at the base camps and all along the route from Lakhanpur -- the gate-

way to J-K -- to ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

### detention law 'exceptional'. cannot be exercised in

### routine manner: SC ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

Powers under preventive

DELHI: Supreme Court has said that powers under the preventive detention law are "exceptional" and cannot be exercised in a routine manner as it strikes hard on the freedom and liberty of an individual.

The apex court observation came as it set aside the October last vear order of detention of two persons in Telangana.

The detention order was passed by the Commissioner of Police, Rachakonda Commissionerate, on the grounds that these two persons were involved in gold chain snatching offences. wherein the victims were mostly women. A

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### City of Temples takes 'pride' in becoming City of Mosques too



JAMMU: The City of Temples turning into the City of Mosques is not an issue at all because Jammu is inclusive and secular in character. That is what all the so-called mainstream leaders from the Kashmir Valley have been saying and hailing since 1990 and this 'praise and acknowledgment' has had a toxic effect on their Jammu based factorums

with whose tacit support the Temple City witnessed the construction of over a hundred mosques after 1994, when their number was just three. This got about nine-fold in 1995 before hitting a century in the years to come, according to the Chairman of NGO Ikkjut Jammu Advocate Ankur Sharma, in a presser on February 17. 2020.

Chief Secretary. Dr Arun Kumar Mehta chairing a meeting

of health officers to review COVID-19 scenario in UT.

Chief

So far so good! But what happened to the temples across the Valley post 1990? After all secularism was supposed to be ingrained in the body and soul of Kashmir-- known for Kashmiriyat. But it had not to be so. Not to speak of any new temple coming up, the Valley witnessed vandalisation of thousands of worship places, according to the displaced temples and shrines activists. However, relying on the official figures, 208 temples suffered damages till 2012. Jammu and Kashmir Government told the Legislative Assembly in a written reply on October 4, 2012 that 208 temples in the then State suffered damages during past "two decades of militancy (terrorism) with Srinagar witnessing highest number of acts of vandalism. "Of the 438 temples in the Valley, 208 had been damaged over the years," stated the government, adding that 57 temples were damaged in Srinagar, followed by south Kashmir's Anantnag district where 56 temples suffered damage. The National Conference- Congress government led by Omar Abdullah had chosen to remain silent over the issue of those responsible for the vandalism and the damages. Ironically, it was he who had told the Lok Sabha during the speech on Trust Motion on July 22, 2008, "You people (BJP) talk of Amarnath.... Show me one place where any Kashmiri has spoken against the yatra...where they have attacked Amarnath vatris. It was an issue concerning our land. We fought for our land, and will continue to fight for our land till our dying breath." The message was loud and clear that there was no land in Kashmir for even raising temporary facilities for Hindu pilgrims, no matter if thousands acre of land at Bhatindi, Narwal, Sunjwan, Kaluchak, Peer Baba Mohalla, Poonchi Mohalla, Channi Rama, Channi Himmat, Raika, Sidhra, Rangoora, Khanpur, Nagrota, Gujjar Mohalla, Qasim Nagar on both sides of newly built NH 44 Bypass gets transformed into an exclusive domain for Samuday Vishesh. Encouraged by innate hate for the Hindu culture and tra-

ditions in the Valley, especially after nineties, the Bollywood

too jumped into the fray to satiate the vicarious pleasure of the pseudo lobby by describing one of the country's grandest Suriya Temple-the Martand Temple-as Shaitan Ki Gufa, the devils den in Haider movie. The film was shot on Kashmir locale from 2012 to early 2014 when the NC-Congress was in the cradle of power. Nobody in the administration, particularly the nodal Department of Tourism, thought it prudent to raise objection to such a bizarre description of the ancient temple complex. Perhaps such a terminology for the heritage site suited all. The film was released on October 2, 2014-the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, who is believed to have seen a ray of light emanating from Kashmir during the horrendous days of the partition. This anthem is being sung by the Kashmir mainstream day in and day out even after the total cleansing of the minuscule minority from the land of saints. Out of deceit and deception, they might have been hailing the Jammu hospitality during the timeline of getting foothold in Jammu for about two decades, their response to the killing of Jammu's Rajni Devi or Rajouri's Ranjit Singh in May this year, however, remained dismal. But for a routine handout of condemnation, they failed in repaying back to what they had got in terms of making Jammu their second home. No tears, no candle-marches or no mobilization of voice against the mayhem unleashed by way of selective