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STATE TIMES

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Air surcharge 50 paise for Leh

03 J&K Bank inks MoU with JPDCL to facilitate ease of electricity bill collection

09 Three held for providing support to terrorists

10 Delhi Wrestler Johnty claims Battal Ballian Dangal

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

Bus terror attack: Combing operation enters second day, over 20 detained for questioning

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Extensive efforts to track down terrorists involved in the attack on pilgrims in Jammu and Kashmir's Reasi district continued on Tuesday, with 11 teams of security personnel working on the ground and a multi-directional cordon laid around the Ranso-Poni-Treyath belt, officials said.

A National Investigation Agency (NIA) team also joined the operation and scanned the area for leads, they said.

Security forces have sounded a high alert in Jammu and Rajouri districts and intensified checking and frisking in the belt following the terror attack that left nine dead and 41 injured.

According to the officials, more than 20 people have been detained for questioning. On Sunday, terrorists opened fire at the 53-seater bus carrying pilgrims when

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9



Devotees continue to visit Shiv Khori despite terror attack

REASI: Undeterred by the terrorist attack on a pilgrim bus that left nine dead Sunday evening, devotees keep streaming in to visit the Shiv Khori temple as usual, reposing faith in the security forces and the god.

On Tuesday, devotees were seen making a brief stopover near the site of the incident near Teryath village of the Poni area and raised slogans like 'Bharat Mata Ki Jai' and 'Bharatiya Sena Zindabad' and praying for the dead. "We came to know about the terror

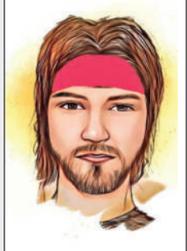
■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Police announces Rs 20 lakh for info on terrorists involved, releases sketch

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir Police on Tuesday released a sketch of a terrorist involved in the attack on a passenger bus in Reasi district and announced Rs 20 lakh reward for information about him.

On Sunday, terrorists opened fire at the 53-seater bus carrying pilgrims when it was en route from the Shiv Khori temple to the Mata Vaishno Devi shrine in Katra near Teryath village in the Poni area.

The bus, which was ferrying pilgrims from Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Delhi, plunged into a deep gorge following the gunfire, killing nine people and injuring 41 others.



"Reasi police announce a reward of Rs 20 lakh for any fruitful information about the whereabouts of the terrorist involved in the recent attack on the yatri bus in the area of Poni," a police spokesman said.

The sketch of the terrorist was prepared based on the description given by eyewitnesses, he said and appealed to people provide information.

Extensive efforts to track down the terrorists involved in the attack was underway on Tuesday, with 11 teams of security personnel working on the ground and a multi-directional cordon laid around the Ranso-Poni-Treyath belt, officials said.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A terrorist was shot dead by security forces during an encounter after ultras on Tuesday evening opened fire at a village in Kathua district, police said.

The terrorists struck Saida Sukhal village near Koota Mode in the Hiranagar sector, a police spokesperson said, adding details of the incident are awaited.

Officials said police and other security forces were rushed to the village following suspicious movement of three persons around 7.45 pm.

A couple of gunshots were heard, believed to be fired by the suspected terrorists, after some people raised an alarm, they said.

One terrorist was killed in the exchange of firing and a search operation is on to track down the other terrorists believed to be holed up in the village, the officials said. A civilian identified as Bitu,

who had suffered grievous injuries in one of his arms in the terrorist firing, was evacuated to hospital, the officials said.

Minister of State in PMO Dr Jitendra Singh has said, "I am in continuous online contact with DC #Kathua Rakesh Minhas in the wake of terrorist attack on a house in village Saida in #Hiranagar sector close to the International Border. I



am also in touch with SSP Kathua Anayat Ali Choudhary who is on the spot.

The owner of the house that was attacked (name not to be disclosed) is also in touch on mobile phone. Joint Police & Para military operation is going on. One terrorist neutralised so far. I and my office are in constant touch and keeping a close watch on the developments."

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

24x7 Lakhanpur Yatri Facilitation Centre, 36 lodgment centers being established for Amarnathji Yatris

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: With the annual Amarnath Yatra around the corner, several arrangements including round-the-clock yatri facilitation centre and lodgment centres will be set up for devotees in Kathua district, officials said on Tuesday.

The intending pilgrims, coming from different parts of the country for the yatra, would be welcomed with a cultural programme, which will continue throughout the yatra period to entertain the devotees, they said.

The 52-day pilgrimage will commence from the twin tracks -- traditional 48 km

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Nunwan-Pahalgam route in Anantnag and 14-km shorter but steep Baltal route in Ganderbal -- on June 29.

The 3,880-metre-high holy cave shrine of Amarnath houses the naturally formed ice-shivlingam.

Over 4.5 lakh pilgrims visited the shrine last year.

The officials said Kathua Deputy Commissioner Rakesh Minhas chaired a meeting of stakeholder departments in the district to review the arrangements being put in place for smooth conduct of the Yatra.

Additional Deputy Commissioner, Ranjit

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Will build Bharat as bulwark against terror, Naxals: Amit Shah

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Tuesday said the new government will take its efforts for India's security to the next level and build Bharat as a bulwark against terrorism, insurgency and Naxalism.

After taking charge of the Union home ministry for the second consecutive term, he also said the ministry under him remains committed to the security of the nation and its people, as it always has been.

Shah, 59, who has been holding the portfolio since 2019, has returned to the

Ministry of Home Affairs today. The MHA will remain committed to the security of the nation and its people, as it always has been. Modi 3.0 will take its efforts for India's security to the next level and

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9



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■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

build Bharat as a bulwark against terrorism, insurgency, and naxalism," he wrote on X.

Before taking charge of the ministry, Shah visited the National Police Memorial in the city's Chanakyapuri area to pay homage to policemen who had laid down their lives while serving the nation.

"Remembering the martyrs of our police forces who laid down their lives guarding the honour of the nation and whose saga of sacrifice immortalised the fervour of patriotism forever. Paid floral tributes in their memory

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Terrorism still there as border with Pakistan porous: Farooq

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: National Conference President Farooq Abdullah on Tuesday said though the security scenario in Jammu and Kashmir was good, terrorism is still alive as the border with Pakistan remains permeable.

"The security (scenario) is good. Terrorism is there. Our border is permeable and there cannot be control everywhere," Abdullah told reporters in Baramulla when asked about the Reasi terror attack in which nine pilgrims were killed.

The former chief minister of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir con-

demned the attackers. "I regret that innocent pilgrims, unarmed people, were attacked. We all, the people of the state, should condemn it and pray that god sends the people who did this to hell," he said.

Referring to the annual Amaranth Yatra which is scheduled to begin later this month, Abdullah said the people of J-K should be ready for the pilgrimage.

"We have always welcomed it and made attempts to make yatris comfortable. God willing, the yatra will be held in a cordial atmosphere this year also," he said.

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

NEET sanctity hit, says SC; seeks Centre, NTA response on plea for fresh exam

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Observing that the sanctity of NEET-UG, 2024 has been affected, the Supreme Court on Tuesday sought responses from the Centre and the National Testing Agency (NTA) on a plea seeking holding of a fresh examination on grounds of alleged question paper leak and other malpractices.

The top court, however, refused to stay the counselling of successful candidates for admissions to MBBS, BDS and other courses.

Taking note of the allegations, a vacation bench of Justice Vikram Nath and Justice Ahsanuddin Amanullah said what the NTA was supposed to do was sacrosanct. "Sanctity (of the exam) has been affected, so we need answers," he said.

Besides the Centre and the NTA, which conducts NEET-UG, the bench also issued notices to the Bihar government. There were

WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 43.0°C Min: 25.3°C

Humidity
Max: 21 Min: 12

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 30.5°C Min: 12.7°C

Humidity
Max: 57 Min: 23

Sunset : 19:38 Hours
Sunrise : 05:22 Hours

Omar should quit politics, message for Muftis also: Chugh



Secretary Tarun Chugh said it's time Abdullah family quits politics. Chugh, who is party incharge for J&K and Ladakh, said Omar Abdullah

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Ravi Shankar, Tarun Chugh BJP's observers for election of next Arunachal CM

NEW DELHI: The BJP on Tuesday appointed former Union minister Ravi Shankar Prasad and its national general secretary Tarun Chugh central observers for the meeting of its Arunachal Pradesh MLAs to elect the state's next chief minister.

The party in a statement said the two leaders will oversee the meeting where the MLAs will elect their leader, the new CM.

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Over 8,400 devotees to leave for annual Kheer Bhawani Yatra today

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Over 8,400 devotees, mostly from the Kashmiri Pandit community, are scheduled to leave Jammu for the annual Kheer Bhawani mela in Kashmir, officials said on Tuesday.

The four-day pilgrimage will begin on June 12 when devotees will leave in buses from the Nagrota area in the outskirts of Jammu city amid tight security arrangements.

This year, 80,000 to 90,000 Kashmiri Pandits from various parts of India and abroad are expected to visit the five renowned temples in the valley.

The annual Kheer

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Lt Gen Upendra Dwivedi to be next Army Chief

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Lt Gen Upendra Dwivedi will be the next Chief of the Army Staff succeeding incumbent Gen Manoj Pande, the government announced on Tuesday night.

Lt Gen Dwivedi is presently serving as Vice Chief of the Army Staff.

Gen Pande will retire on June 30.

In appointing Lt Gen Dwivedi, the government followed the seniority principle.

"The government has appointed Lt Gen

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9



Ministry said. In a rare move, the government last month extended Gen Pande's tenure by one month days before his superannuation.

Gen Pande was to retire from service on May 31. The move triggered speculation that Lt Gen Dwivedi may be overlooked for the top post.

The senior-most official after Lt Gen Dwivedi is Lt Gen Ajay Kumar Singh, the Southern Army Commander.

Lt Gen Dwivedi was also set to retire on June 30.

Dr Jitendra convenes 6 Ministries' joint meeting, discusses 100 days Action plan

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Soon after assuming charge as Union Minister today, Dr Jitendra Singh convened a joint meeting of six Science Ministries/departments and their Secretaries wherein he discussed the first 100 days Action plan under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"Action plan for the first 100 days is intended to continue India's progress under the leadership of PM Narendra Modi, says Dr. Jitendra Singh while assuming charge as the Union Minister of Science & Technology (Independent charge) today at Central Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) Headquarters here.

Addressing the media after assuming charge, Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh said "India is a frontline nation under PM Modi to offer leadership to the world in the field of Science & technology.

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh convening a joint meeting of six Science Ministries/departments soon after taking over charge as Union Minister at New Delhi on Tuesday.

Dr. Singh said "The special priority were Startups in the last 10 years under PM Modi which is evident from the statistical figures from 350 Startups in 2014 to 1.5 lakh 2024 with more than 110 unicorns".

Bio economy has gone up by many folds and the progress will continue in this term .

Dr. Jitendra highlighted that the Patronage of PM Modi has played an active part in introducing new Technologies making the Innovations technologies such as Road construction technology, AI driven Healthcare, has brought ease of living for citizens of the country.

He expressed his confidence in car-

rying forward this mission for the next 20 years when India usher in 2047.

Innovations became part of infrastructure development when India will celebrate its Centenary year of Independence.

Union minister categorically mentioned that towards the end of its Second term the government brought Anusudhan National research foundation (NRF) legislation was introduced which makes India A frontline nation in Science and technology.

Highlighting India's progress in the Space sector Dr Singh said "India's esteem has risen due to its achievements in Space with successful landing of Chandrayaan-3 on the south pole of the moon and steady progress towards India's first Human Space flight mission - Gaganyaan mission." We have no dearth of Scientific Acumen in the country,

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Isolated heatwave returns to Jammu; mercury settles at 43 deg C

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The isolated heatwave returned to Jammu with the maximum temperature in the city settling at 43 degrees Celsius, four notches above normal during this part of the season, the meteorological department said.

The city, which reeled under heatwave for most part of the last month, got relief on June 7 when the temperature dropped to 37.6 degrees Celsius from the previous days 41.9 degrees Celsius amid intermittent rains and cloud cover.

However, the day temperature once again shot up in Jammu to 41.2 degrees



■ CONTD ON PAGE 9