

**03 Private schools hold great responsibility in shaping society: Sr Adv Zafar Shah**

**03 Modi Govt introduced new work culture, boosted StartUps: Dr Jitendra**

**10 Rahuldev wins Asthetic Natural Physique award**

Website : [www.statetimes.in](http://www.statetimes.in), Email: [statetimes1@gmail.com](mailto:statetimes1@gmail.com)

## LG camps at Nunwan Pahalgam to monitor rescue, relief ops

**Amarnath Yatra suspended from Jammu due to inclement weather**

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

**PAHALGAM:** Camping overnight at Nunwan in Pahalgam to oversee the rescue and relief operations, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Sunday said that efforts are being made to resume the Yatra as soon as possible.

"Dedicated measures are being taken to ensure the safety and well-being of the pilgrims", the Lieutenant Governor said while interacting with Yatris staying at the base camp and reviewing the arrangements at healthcare facilities and Langars.

Sinha added that providing better facilities to pilgrims is government's top priority.

The Lt Governor lauded the commendable efforts and swift action of the J&K Police, Army, CAPF's, NDRF and civil administration during the rescue and relief operation for saving the precious lives.

Earlier, during the meeting with the officials at the Nunwan Base camp, the Lt Governor was briefed about the rescue and relief operations, debris clearance, deployment of machinery and manpower, camp wise breakdown of the pilgrims, besides the arrangements and



LG Manoj Sinha during his visit to Nunwan, Pahalgam on Sunday. (More pics on pg-9)

efforts put in to facilitate the Yatris.

Nitishwar Kumar, Principal Secretary to Lt Governor; Pandurang K Pole, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; Dr Shahid Iqbal Choudhary, Secretary to the Government, Tribal Affairs Department; Vijay Kumar, ADGP Kashmir; Dr. Piyush Singla, Deputy Commissioner Anantnag, and other senior officers of Police, SASB and UT administration accompanied the Lt

Governor.

Meanwhile, the Amarnath Yatra has been suspended from Jammu due to inclement weather conditions and no fresh batch was allowed to proceed from here to the base camps of the 3,880-metre-high cave shrine in south Kashmir Himalayas, officials said.

A flash flood triggered by a cloudburst near the cave shrine on Friday afternoon has led to the

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

## 37 pilgrims from AP still missing in Amarnath tragedy

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

**AMARAVATI:** The number of pilgrims from Andhra Pradesh missing in the Amarnath yatra cloudburst tragedy increased to 37 on Sunday evening as relatives called the authorities and informed that their kin remain untraced.

Till now, 84 pilgrims were reported safe as they came in contact with their relatives as well as authorities, official sources here said.

On Sunday afternoon, the state government said only two women from Rajamahendravaram remained untraced in the Amarnath tragedy.

"Subsequently, we received calls from several persons that their relatives could not be contacted after the cloudburst and flash flood near the holy cave shrine. As per the information, we now have 37 missing cases," a senior official involved with the rescue mission told PTI.

About 29 members in two groups from Nellore, two persons from Eluru, three of a family from Rajamahendravaram and one from Undrajavaram near Tanuku were the latest to be reported missing, in addition to the two women from

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

## Inter-state drug mafia exposed; Methaqualone worth millions seized; 6 peddlers arrested

**Drugs peddlers from Bari Brahmana area were enjoying pro-active political patronage**

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

**JAMMU:** Jammu Police on Sunday achieved a major success by busting an inter-state drug peddlers gang and recovering 700 grams of psychotropic substance worth millions of rupees from Miran Sahib area in Jammu City outskirts. A hardcore drug peddler, who was evading arrest in several cases was also apprehended.

The police action is seen as a major breakthrough in nabbing the peddlers native of Simbal Camp and Bari Brahmana area, who have been allegedly enjoying pro-

active political patronage, from a local leader and former minister, who was ousted from the ministry during Rasana protests.

**Methaqualone is a sedative hypnotic drug and as first introduced in the US market and then banned globally due to its high abuse potential. Currently, it is a costliest Schedule-I drug in international market.**

Police has no information related to the use of this type of costly drug in J&K. However, Jammu police has achieved a major success in exposing the interstate drugs

nexus.

Giving details, SSP Jammu Chandan Kohli said that several nakas were established by Jammu police amid ongoing Amarnath Yatra and a team from Police Station Miran Sahib Jammu, under the supervision of SP Hqrs Rammish Gupta and SDPO R S Pura Surinder Singh, led by SHO Miran Sahib Inspector Zaheer Mushtaq, during Naka checking near Dak Banglow, rounded up three suspects on a motorcycle (JK21G-4156), which was moving towards Miran

Sahib.

As they were appearing suspicious and trying to dodge police, the alert cops overpowered them. During search, 700 grams psychotropic substance worth millions of rupees was recovered from their possession.

**The trio, arrested on the spot, were identified as Paramjeet Singh alias Sunny, son of Labh Singh, resident of Ward-4, Simbal Camp (arrested with 510 gm Methaqualone like psychotropic substance); Mohd Saleem, son of Hashim Din, resident of Bari Brahmana**

**(arrested with 92 gm Methaqualone) and Farooq Parvana, son of Zaheer, resident of Tali Basti Bari Brahmana, who was nabbed with 100 gm Methaqualone like psychotropic substance. FIR 73/2022 under sections 8/22 /29/60 of NDPS Act has been registered against them at Police Station Miran Sahib.**

The SSP said that accused Paramjeet is a notorious drug-peddler, wanted in different cases, was evading arrest for several years. The seizure is believed to be

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

## 88 fresh COVID cases in J&K; 6 in Ladakh

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

**SRINAGAR:** Jammu and Kashmir on Sunday reported 88 fresh COVID-19 cases that took its infection tally to 4,56,041, while one more fatality pushed the death toll to 4,759, officials here said.

Of the fresh cases, 35 were reported from the Jammu division of the union territory and 53 from the Kashmir division, they said.

There are 756 active COVID-19 cases in Jammu and Kashmir. The number of recoveries stands at 4,50,527, the officials said.

Meanwhile, Ladakh has reported six fresh infections, raising the COVID-19 tally to 28,561 in the Union Territory, officials said.

The fresh cases were from Leh.

On the bright side, 35 patients were discharged from the hospital after recovering from COVID-19, officials said. All positive cases were received in Leh. So far, 228 people have

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

## Uncertainty prevails in J&K Cong as it awaits new President

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

**JAMMU:** Uncertainty prevailed over the appointment of new Jammu and Kashmir Congress president with party leaders here Sunday expressing reservations against the reported finalisation of the name of a former MLA for the post though there was no official announcement.

A section of the media has reported that a junior leader has been finalised by the Congress leadership in New Delhi after Gulam Ahmed Mir relinquished the post Wednesday.

Former minister and senior

Congress leader G M Saroori told reporters here Sunday the name being reported by the media is "not acceptable to us".

"We have conveyed this to our central leaders including Rahul ji and Sonia Gandhi. We have made a request to them over the issue," he said.

Mir was appointed J&K Congress chief in March, 2015, but the state unit has been battling an infighting for a long time, with a group owing allegiance to senior Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad. Several Azad faction leaders had resigned their posts in support of their

demand pressing for a change in the leadership in J&K last year.

Saroori, a staunch Azad loyalist, said both the groups are against the name that was reported by the media as the next state Congress chief. "He is the most junior of all. I do not know who is with him."

"Neither any leader from Kashmir nor from Jammu has acceptance over his name. None of the six sitting MLAs is with him. Just talk to anyone," the former Minister said. Batting strongly for a

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

## Bodies of 2 minor girls recovered from river

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

**POONCH:** Bodies of two minor girls who had drowned along with a boy in a river in Poonch district, were recovered on Sunday, officials said.

The trio drowned while taking a bath in Mendhar river near Dhaki Bridge on Saturday.

While boy was rescued by army unit in Mendhar, operation to trace the two missing continued till Sunday, they said.

The bodies of duo were recovered from Chajjala area after 15 hours of going missing in the river, they said.

The deceased girls

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

## 700 local youth recruited by terror groups in J&K during last 4 years, 141 ultras active

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

**NEW DELHI:** Terrorist groups recruited 700 Jammu and Kashmir youths into their fold in the last four years, while 141 terrorists, the majority of them foreigners, are currently active in the union territory, officials said.

The presence of a large number of terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir indicates unabated infiltration from terror launch pads across the border.

According to Union Ministry of Home Affairs statistics, a total of 82 foreign terrorists were operat-

ing in Jammu and Kashmir as on July 5, 2022, while there were 59 active local terrorists.

The terrorists mostly belong to outfits like Lashkar-e-Taiba, its offshoot The Resistance Front, Jaish-e-Mohammad and Hizbul Mujahideen, an official said, citing the data.

Different terror groups have recruited 700 local youths in Jammu and Kashmir in the last four years - 187 in 2018, 121 in 2019, 181 in 2020 and 142 in 2021.

By the end of June this year, 69 youths had been

recruited by terror groups into their fold.

Security forces have eliminated 125 terrorists in 55 encounters so far this year. Of these, 91 were locals and 34 foreigners.

Besides, 123 terrorists were apprehended in these encounters and large quantities of arms and ammunition recovered from their possession.

As many as 172 terrorists were apprehended in Jammu and Kashmir in 2021, 251 in 2020, 148 in 2019 and 185 in 2018, according to the data. Two security

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

## BSF, Pak Rangers exchange sweets at Int'l Border on Eid-ul-Adha



BSF, Pak Rangers exchanging sweets at Int'l Border in Samba sector.

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

**JAMMU:** The Border Security Force (BSF) and the Pakistan Rangers exchanged sweets on Sunday at various outposts along the International Border in the Jammu region on the occasion of Eid-ul-Adha.

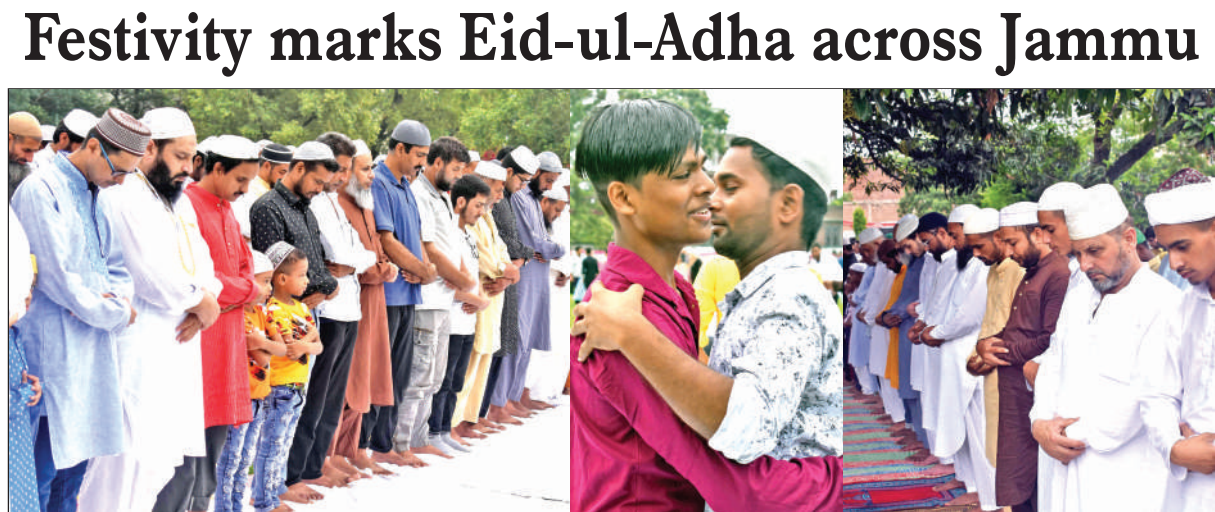
"The troops of the BSF and the Pakistan Rangers exchanged sweets on the occasion of Eid at various

BOPs along the IB under the Jammu frontier in a very cordial atmosphere," a BSF spokesperson said.

Sweets were exchanged all along the BOPs in Samba, Kathua, R S Pura and Akhnoor, he said.

The BSF has always been at the forefront in creating a peaceful and congenial atmosphere along the

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9



Muslim brethren offering prayers and greeting each other during Eid celebrations in Jammu.

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

**JAMMU:** The Eid-ul-Adha was celebrated with traditional religious fervour and gaiety across Jammu region on Sunday.

The biggest congregation took place at Eidgah and

Macea Masjid in Jammu, where hundreds of devotees performed Namaz-e-Eid and prayed for peace, development and prosperity of J&K as well as the country.

Eid Namaz was also

offered at other mosques of the Doda, Kishtwar, Ramban, Poonch, Rajouri, Reasi and Kathua districts of the Jammu region.

The district administrations had made elaborate security and other neces-

sary arrangements for the festival.

Deputy Commissioners of districts also extended their greetings on the occasion and said that the festival is an occasion for devotion and charity.

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

**WEATHER**

Temperature (Jammu)

Max: 31.2°C Min: 25.6°C

Humidity

Max : 92 Min : 78

Temperature (Srinagar)

Max: 29.9°C Min: 21.4°C

Humidity

Max : 83 Min: 50

Sunset : 19:41 Hours

Sunrise : 05:31 Hours