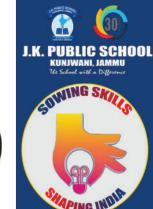
Vol. 27 Issue 197 • Jammu • Monday • July 18, 2022 • Pages 14 • ₹ 2.00



Regd. No. L-29/JK-346/22-24 Mother dies, daughter injured in UL scooty-car collision

Separate Jammu State the only lasting solution: Ankur

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

Progressing J&K: J&K registers hike of 3.7 pc in GGI from 2019 to 2021

MPs, MLAs to elect President today; Murmu has clear edge over Sinha

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Nearly 4,800 elected MPs and MLAs will vote on July 18 to elect the 15th President of India, with National Democratic Alliance (NDA) candidate Droupadi Murmu having a

clear edge over the Opposition's Yashwant Sinha as over 60% of votes are expected to be cast in

The polling will take place in Parliament House and state legislative assemblies between $10~\mathrm{am}$ and 5 pm for which ballot boxes have already reached their destinations.

The counting of votes will take place at Parliament House on July 21 and the next President will take oath on July 25.

With the support of regional parties such as the Bharatiya Janata Dal (BJD), Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress Party (YSRCP), Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP), All India Anna Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK), Telugu Desam Party (TDP), Janata Dal Secular (JD(S)), Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD), Shiv Sena and now Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM), Murmu's vote share is likely to

become the first woman from the tribal community to occupy the top constitutional post.

The NDA nominee now has over 6.67 lakh votes after the support of various

regional parties, out of a total of

The electoral college which elects the President through the system of proportional representation comprises elected MPs and members of state legislative assemblies. Nominated MPs and MLAs, and members of legislative councils are not entitled to vote in this election.

The system of secret ballot is followed and parties cannot issue whip to their MPs and MLAs with regard to voting.

The value of the vote of a member of Parliament has gone down to 700 from absence of a legislative assembly in Jammu and Kashmir.

The value of vote of an MLA varies in different states. In Uttar Pradesh, the value of the vote of each MLA stands at 208, followed by 176 in Jharkhand and

> Tamil Nadu. In Maharashtra, it is 175. In Sikkim, the value of vote per MLA is seven, while it is nine in Nagaland and eight in Mizoram.

Before naming Sinha, a former Union minister and BJP leader, opposition camp had Gopalkrishna approached Gandhi, grandson of Mahatma Gandhi and a former governor of Bengal; Nationalist

Congress Party (NCP) supremo Sharad Pawar; and National Conference leader Farooq Abdullah to contest the poll. After their refusal to be part of the

electoral battle, Sinha, then Trinamool Congress vice president, was named as the Opposition's candidate. The election of the President is held in

accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of single transferable vote.

In accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of

J&K reports 203 fresh COVID cases, Ladakh 14

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir on Sunday recorded 203 fresh Covid cases--111 from the Jammu division and 92 from the Valley, thus taking the total number of positive cases in the Union Territory to 457032.

According to the daily Media Bulletin, out of 457032 positive cases, 1044 are Active Positive, 451230 have recovered and 4758 have died-- 2333 in

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250 Kg poppy husk seized from truck in Samba; 1 held

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Police on Sunday seized 250 kilogram of poppy husk from a truck and arrested a man in Samba district, officials said.

A police party intercepted a truck at Vijaypur on the Jammu-Pathankot highway, they said.

During checking, around 250 Kilogram of poppy husk hidden in 11 plastic sacks was seized from it, the officials said. Truck

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Ensuing people's involvement in strengthening participatory governance in J&K: LG

Jan Bhagidari, Azadi Ka

Amrit Mahotsav, Good

Governance, Police-public

Cooperation,

Heritage,

Reviving

Air surcharge 50 paisa for Leh

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Noting that Jan Bhagidari has been transformed into a movement in Jammu and

Kashmir, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Sunday complimented the District level administrations for invoking the spirit of publicparticipation in the government working among the masses.

In his 16th edition of 'Awaam Ki Awaaz

gramme, dedicated to the citizens, who are working for the betterment of the society and nation building, the Lt Governor mentioned that District Budgam has ensured that the locals become equal stakeholders in strengthening the pillars of participato-

month's episode of Awaam ki Awaaz programme which was aired today on all local and primary channels of All India Radio (AIR) in the UT and also broadcast on DD Kashmir.

Entrepreneurs were among

the focus areas of this

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

nity for new dreams, new resolve to bring about peace, prosperity and all-round progress in the country. As

> the cradle of civilization, we are determined to further enhance country's position at the world stage, the Lt Governor said. District

Udhampur is promoting benefits of B e a m s Empowerment portal District Kishtwar is becoming synonymous

Youth-Powered Padvatras. These initiatives are aimed at equipping the locals with information and bridging the gap between the administration and public, the Lt Governor added.

mended the employees

India presses for disengagement in remaining

friction points in eastern Ladakh at 16th round

of military talks with China

The Lt Governor also com-■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

5,284 pilgrims leave for Amarnath cave shrine from Jammu



Jubilant pilgrims at Bhagwati Nagar, Jammu before departure to Amarnath cave Shrine on Sunday. (Pic by Shilpa Thakur)

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The 18th batch of over 5,200 Amarnath pilgrims left from here on Sunday for twin base camps in south Kashmir Himalayas

India crosses 200-crore

COVID vaccine doses mark

achieved a major milestone

in its vaccination pro-

gramme against COVID-19

as the cumulative doses

administered surpassed the

200-crore mark on Sunday,

18 months after it began the

drive to combat the deadly

epidemic that has claimed

over 5.25 lakh lives in the

In a tweet, Prime Minister

Narendra Modi congratulat-

ed the people of the country

on bringing about this signif-

icant feat. He called India's

vaccination drive unparal-

The UNICEF termed it a

phenomenal accomplishment

and a testament to the grit

and dedication of India's

health workers, while the

WHO too praised the effort.

"India has set a new record

by completing the target of

200 crore vaccinations in

just 18 months. Hearty con-

gratulations to all country-

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

men on this

leled in scale and speed.

country so far.

DELHI: India

STATE TIMES NEWS

for 3,880-metre-high cave shrine of Amarnath, officials said. A total of 5,284 pilgrims left Bhagwati Nagar Yatri Niwas here in a

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Workshop on EVMs, VVPATs likely by month end in Srinagar

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The election machinery is gearing up for the conduct of assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir as the first-level checking (FLC) of EVMs and VVPATs will be held at a workshop here later this month, officials said on Sunday.

They said deputy commissioners of all ten districts of the Valley and a team of the Election Commission of India (ECI) will participate in the workshop.

"The preparations for the assembly elections are underway. However, the final dates for the conduct of the polls will be decided by the ECI," an official said. Jammu and Kashmir has

since November 2018 when the then legislative assembly was dissolved by then governor Satva Pal Malik after the PDP-BJP coalition government fell apart earlier that The Centre as well as the Lieutenant Governor admin-

been without an assembly

istration here have been saying that the assembly elections in the UT would be conducted after the process of delimitation and electoral revision is completed.

The delimitation of constituencies was completed earlier this year and the Election Commission began

the process of electoral rolls revision in the union territory last month -- an exercise taking place after a gap of three years and for the first time since the abrogation of J-K's special status in August 2019.

indications that polls could be held in the UT after the electoral rolls revision is com-They said the preparations

The officials said there are

for the polls were in full The delimitation has been completed. The electoral rolls

revision is on and is likely to be completed soon. The EC has set October 31 as the final date for publication of the revised electoral rolls, the official said.

The process of rationalisation of polling stations was also going on and is likely to be completed by the end of this month. Some of the deputy com-

missioners who are designated as district election officers have released list of draft polling stations after rationalisation, while others are in the process of doing so, the official said

The rationalisation of polling stations was necessitated because of the creation of seven new assembly constituencies as well as change in boundaries of many

CONTD ON PAGE 9

■ STATE TIMES NEWS NEW DELHI: India on

Sunday strongly pressed for early disengagement of troops from all the remaining friction points in eastern Ladakh at the 16th round of high-level military talks with China, which took place after a gap of over four months.

In the discussions that lasted for around 12-and-a-half hours, the Indian delegation also insisted on the restoration of the status quo ante as of April 2020 -- before the start of the military standoff, people familiar with the development said.

The talks began at 9:30 am at the Chushul Moldo meetof the LAC in the region, and ended at around 10 pm, they said. There were some expecta-

ing point on the Indian side

tions of progress at the talks on completing the disengagement process at Patrolling Point-15 in the Hot Springs area.

The Indian delegation at the talks was led by Lt-General Anindya Sengupta, the commander of the Lehbased 14 Corps, while the Chinese team was headed by South Xinjiang Military District Chief Major General Yang Lin. There was no official word on the outcome

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CRPF officer martyred in Pulwama terrorist attack

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: A CRPF officer was martyred in a terror attack in Pulwama district on Sunday, police said.

A police spokesman said at about 2:15 pm, terrorists fired at a checkpoint jointly manned by police and CRPF at Gangoo crossing area of Pulwama. In the terror inci-Assistant Inspector (ASI) of CRPF Vinod Kumar was critically injured and was immediately shifted to a hospital, where he succumbed to injuries and attained martyrdom, he said. Senior police officers, along with reinforcement, reached the spot and the preliminary

investigation revealed that



terrorists taking advantage

He said a case has been

Office of LG J&K 📀 @OfficeOfLGJandK I salute the bravery and supreme

sacrifice of CRPF's ASI, Vinod Kumar in the line of duty. My deepest condolences to the bereaved family. Strongly condemn heinous terror attack on a naka party in Pulwama. Our security forces will give a befitting reply to the perpetrators. initiated.

of nearby apple orchards fired indiscriminately upon the security forces near Gangoo crossing area of Pulwama in south Kashmir. the spokesman said.

registered and investigation

Meanwhile, the officers continued to work to establish the full circumstances of the incident. The whole area, including orchards, has been cordoned off and a search operation is in progress, the

away empty-handed: Dr Jitendra **STATE TIMES NEWS**

NEW DELHI: Minister Jitendra Singh on Sunday asked newly inducted Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officers to remain grounded and to ensure that no citizen, who needs their intervention, is turned away empty handed from their office.

Addressing the newlyinducted officers, he said it is important to use technology to bring definite improvement in the governance and to make it citizen-centric.

The minister exhorted the young bureaucrats to remain grounded and added that



Remain grounded, ensure no citizen turned

Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh addressing the 2020 batch IAS officers, at Civil Services Officers Institute, New Delhi on Sunday. their attitude to the common

citizen who comes to the doorstep of the government is going to be one of the most important factors in shaping

citizen's satisfaction from government services, according to a Personnel Ministry

Once the attitude is sup-

portive and full of empathy, the attitude of those who are working with civil servants is bound to change and therefore they should strive for being the role model in this attitude changing mission, he added.

Singh, the Minister of State for Personnel, also advised the young officers to adopt a very respectful attitude towards public representatives and listen to them patiently and promptly examine their suggestions in the light of policy framework. He said, wherever feasible or desirable, we may

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Monsoon Session: Oppn to corner Govt on Agnipath, price rise

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Leaders of various opposition parties on Sunday demanded that issues of price rise, 'Agnipath' scheme as well as the alleged misuse of investigative agencies be taken up in Parliament and also raised objections to the list of 'unparliamentary words' at an allparty meeting convened by the government ahead of the Monsoon

Sources said the leaders were unanimous in their demand for the immediate withdrawal of the Agnipath scheme for recruitment in the armed forces and called for a discussion on important issues like price rise and the status of the economy during the session starting Monday.

Addressing reporters after the meeting, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi said that the government was open to discussion on all issues under the rules and procedures of Parliament.

32 bills indicated for presentation

NEW DELHI: A day before the start of the monsoon session of Parliament, the government on Sunday said 32 bills have been indicated by various departments for presentation in two houses of which 14 are ready, even as it asserted that it wants discussions on all of them in a democratic way.

After an all-party meeting here, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi also said that some of these 32 bills have already been discussed by standing committees of Parliament.

"Thirty two bills have been indicated by various departments for being presented in this session of Parliament, of which 14 bills are ready, but we will not pass the bills without discussion," he told reporters.

Joshi said that the government had invited around 45 parties to the all-

party meeting, of which 36 attended it. "I am thankful to them for participating in the meeting. During the meeting chaired by senior minister Rajnath Singh, they demanded some of the issues to be discussed.

"Some of the issues that were raised included about the words that have been declared as 'unparliamentary' and it has been clarified that the compilation of unparliamentary phrases is being done every year for a long time," he said. On the listed business for the monsoon session that will start on July 18 and is scheduled to continue till August 12, Joshi said, ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge asked how 32 bills, lined up by the government,

will get passed in 14 days in Parliament and said, "What is the government is trying to do?"

"We raised 13 issues including price rise, Agnipath, attack on the federal structure of the country and misuse of investigative agencies such as ED and CBI," Kharge told reporters after the meeting.

Leaders from almost all parties including Congress' Mallikarjun Kharge, Adhir Ranjan Chowdhurv and Jairam Ramesh, Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam's T R Baalu and Tiruchi Siva, Trinamool Congress's Sudeep Bandyopadhyay and Nationalist Congress Party's Sharad Pawar, besides Biju Janata Dal's Pinaki Misra, Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress Party's Vijaysai Reddy, Telangana Rashtra Samiti' Keshav Rao, Rashtriya Janata Dal's A D Singh and Shiv Sena's Sanjay Raut were present.

The government was represented by Union Minister Rajnath Singh, who is also the deputy leader of the Lok Sabha, his cabinet colleague and leader of ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Search operation launched along border areas in Samba



Security forces carrying out search operation in Samba sector ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Search operation was launched by police and security forces in border areas along Indo-Pak border after some light-emitting flying object was spotted along International Border (IB) in Samba district, official sources said.

The search operation was

launched in areas along IB in Manguchak belt, they said.

The people saw a light emitting flying object on Saturday night suspecting it to be a drone, triggering panic in the area.

However, police said it was an Indian private commercial night flight that

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Max: 88 Min: 63 Temperature (Srinagar) Max: 29.0°C Min: 18.0°C Max: 87 Min: 59

Sunset: 19:39 Hours

Sunrise: 05:37 Hours