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Amarnath pilgrims' entry into Kashmir post 3.30 pm barred for security reasons

Another batch of 6,400 pilgrims leaves from Jammu

STATE TIMES NEWS

BANIHAL/JAMMU: Pilgrims and tourists have been barred from crossing over to Kashmir from Banihal area of Ramban district after 3.30 pm, the cut-off time, due to security concerns, an officer said on Friday.

The measure has been taken by the police in view of unregistered Amarnath pilgrims travelling in the guise of tourists to the Valley, thereby causing security problems in view of heightened security threats, the officer said.

"Unregistered pilgrims, travelling without RIFD (radio-frequency identification) and devotees travelling in the guise of tourists will not be allowed to move to Kashmir from Navyug tunnel in (Banihal area) after cut-off time of 3.30 pm," Ramban Superintendent of Police Mohita Sharma told



Shri Amarnath pilgrims leaving from Jammu.

reporters here.

For security reasons, vehicles of Amarnath pilgrims and tourists will not be allowed towards Kashmir after 1.30 pm at Chandrakot and after 3.30 pm from Banihal tunnel. However, trucks and other local traffic will ply as usual, she said.

The SP further said the pilgrims, who were stopped at Chandrakot after 1.30 pm, have been accommodated at Yatri Niwas in Chandrakot.

Replying to a question on restrictions for local traffic on the highway during the yatra, Sharma said their local vehicles, including those ferrying school students, employees and patients, are being allowed one by one.

Meanwhile, amid tight security, fresh batch of 6,400 pilgrims left from a base camp this morning in a secured convoy to perform pilgrimage to the cave shrine of Amarnath in south of

Himalayas. Chanting 'Bam Bam Bhole', the pilgrims left the Bhagwati Nagar base camp in a cavalcade of 265 vehicles early morning.

The 43-day long pilgrimage to the cave shrine will conclude on August 11 on the occasion of Raksha Bandhan.

With today's batch the number of the total pilgrims, who have left for Amarnath cave shrine from Jammu, goes up to 17,100, officials said.

Over 7,000 fresh pilgrims have arrived in Jammu from various places across the country for their onward journey to the shrine, they said. After on-the spot registration at three counters and supply of tokens at two counters, they have been lodged in 32 lodging centres and base camps here.

The Yatra commenced

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J&K logs 94 fresh COVID cases

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir's COVID-19 tally climbed to 4,55,183 on Friday with 94 fresh cases, while no new deaths were reported, officials here said.

The death toll stands at 4,756, they said.

Of the fresh cases, 62 cases were reported from the Jammu division of the union territory and 32 from the Kashmir valley, the officials said. There are 545

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3 Amarnath pilgrims injured in accident at Banihal

STATE TIMES NEWS

BANIHAL/JAMMU: Three pilgrims to the Amarnath cave shrine were injured when their vehicle skidded off the Jammu-Srinagar national highway and turned turtle in Ramban district on Friday morning, officials said.

The tempo-traveller, which was carrying pilgrims to Kashmir from Jammu, met with the accident near

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Two hybrid terrorists arrested in Srinagar

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Two hybrid terrorists of the Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) outfit were arrested here and arms and ammunition recovered from their possession, police said on Friday.

On the basis of a specific input about the movement of terrorists in the district, police on Thursday laid special checkpoints, a police official said.

At one such special checkpoint at Sanat Nagar Chowk-Rangreth road area, security forces apprehended a hybrid terrorist along with a pistol and some rounds during checking, the official said.

Upon his disclosure, a cordon and search operation was launched in Pampore area on the outskirts of the city, resulting in the arrest of another hybrid terrorist, the official said.

He said three more pistols and other arms and ammunition were recovered from the possession of the hybrid terrorist.

The two were identified as



Naveed Shafi Wani, resident of Shar Shali Khrew Pampore, and Faizan Rashid Teli, resident of Kadlbal Pampore.

Incriminating material linked to LeT along with arms and ammunition, including four Chinese pistols, six pistol magazines, 11 pistol rounds, a grenade, 16 gelatin super power sticks, six metres of cortex wire and eight detonators were recovered from their possession.

A case has been registered and preliminary investigation

has found that the arrested terror associates have been involved in transportation of terrorists, arms/ explosive material and providing logistical support to terrorists of LeT in district Srinagar before as well, the official said.

Hybrid terrorist is a term coined by security forces in Jammu and Kashmir to describe those ultras who carry out a subversive task assigned to them by their handlers before slipping back into normal life.

Restoring fettered constitutional rights of people of J&K only way to ensure peace : Farooq

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: NC president Farooq Abdullah on Friday said peace in Jammu and Kashmir cannot be achieved by feeding bitter medicines to its people but only by restoring their "fettered" constitutional rights.

Interacting with delegations from Kargil, and north, south and central parts of Kashmir at his residence here, the National Conference leader said it is the obligation of the people of Jammu and Kashmir to light the candle of democracy again in the union territory.

"Peace in Jammu and

Kashmir cannot be achieved by feeding bitter medicines to our people. It can only be achieved by restoring their fettered constitutional and democratic rights," Abdullah said.

"It is our obligation, as responsible citizens, to light the candle of democracy again in J-K and there is a need for a united, constitutional and democratic struggle for the restoration of people's abridged constitutional, democratic and human rights.

"I see no way of achieving anything in J-K without

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Naib Tehsildar Ghrota demanded Rs 25 lakh for Fard Co-accused arrested with Rs 9 lakh; NT on 7-day police remand

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Naib Tehsildar, Ashok Kumar, who was caught red-handed by Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) while accepting bribe of Rs 1.5 lakh, was sent on police remand upto July 7 by the Special Judge Anti-Corruption Jammu, Ritesh Dubey on Friday.

According to ACB, a complainant against Ashok Sharma, Naib Tehsildar and his associates for demanding a bribe of Rs 25 lakh for issuing Fard was submitted by a complainant, who alleged

that he had applied for issuance of Fard in respect of land in name of his wife measuring 1 Kanal 19 Marlas under Khasra No. 440/299 situated at Mava Karora, Sungal Morh, Akhnoor before the then Patwari Halqa Akhnoor Khas namely Ravinder Bhagat. It was alleged that after filing application, Patwari Ravinder Bhagat and Naib Tehsildar Ashok Sharma approached complainant through their tout Raman Gupta and demanded a bribe of Rs 30 lakh for

issuance of Fard.

Later, on negotiation the amount was settled at Rs 25 lakh. Thereafter, both Patwari and Naib Tehsildar were transferred, but an amount of Rs 25 lakh was still being demanded by Naib Tehsildar Ashok Sharma from complainant. It was also alleged that the Fard was prepared as the complainant had received a soft copy through Whatsapp from one Chiku Gupta, who was the buyer of land, as same was sent to him by tout Raman Gupta. The original

copy of Fard, which was alleged to be retained by Naib Tehsildar Ashok Sharma, was not being provided to complainant as Naib Tehsildar Ashok Sharma was demanding a bribe of Rs 25 lakh. The complainant had further alleged that he has been asked by Naib Tehsildar to bring at least Rs 1.50 lakh, after which he approached ACB for appropriate action against erring officials.

Accordingly, FIR 06/2022 was registered at

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Commercial LPG price cut by Rs 198; no change in ATF rate

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Price of commercial LPG, used by hotels, restaurants and other business establishments, was cut by Rs 198 per 19-kg cylinder on Friday in line with softening international rates.

A 19-kg commercial LPG cylinder now costs Rs 2,021 in Delhi as against Rs 2,219 previously, according to a price notification from state-owned fuel retailers. This

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15 DySPs promoted as SPs

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Government on Friday promoted 15 Deputy Superintendents of Police (DySPs) as Superintendents of Police (SPs) in the Jammu and Kashmir Police (Gazetted) Service.

According to the order issued by Raj Kumar Goyal, Financial

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Directors of Companies, Limited Liability Partnerships must complete registration exercise immediately

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: In a significant move to have a proper identification of every person who files any document on MCA Portal, the ROC (Registrar of Companies) J&K & Ladakh on Friday issued directions for all the persons who are either 'Directors of Companies' or 'Designated Partners' in Limited Liability Partnerships incorporated in J&K to get themselves registered as Business Users immediately on MCA Portal.

Directors of companies and Designated partners of LLPs are further asked to associate their Digital Signature

Certificates (DSC) through DSC association service.

Further it is learnt that the letters for this compliance have been signed by Haamid Bukhari and the dispatch exercise in bulk has already started through emails.

As per the data available in public domain, there are approximately 5000 Active companies and LLPs incorporated with the ROC office and the number of such directors and designated partners would be roughly around (6000-7000).

The mailed letter reads that the conversion of existing 'Registered Users' into

Business Users & Registration of new ones as 'Business Users' only are necessitated due to transformation journey of our Online Module known as MCA21 Version 3.

The letter further elaborates the user friendly steps to complete the exercise of registration followed by DSC Association.

This exercise is a nation wide exercise to be carried out by Ministry of Corporate Affairs with the help of Company Secretaries and Chartered Accountants Institute and the purpose

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Amid spike in COVID cases, face masks mandatory in Leh

STATE TIMES NEWS

LEH: Amid sudden spike of COVID-19 cases in Ladakh, the administration has made wearing of face masks mandatory for public in Leh district of the union territory.

As per an order issued by District Magistrate Shrikant Balasaheb Suse on Thursday, the wearing of facemasks is mandatory for the people in public places in Leh to contain the spread of the coronavirus.

In case of any violation of the order, the violator will be fined Rs 500, the DM said.

Ladakh has reported

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Army, Navy begin recruitment under Agnipath scheme

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The Indian Army and Navy began their recruitment processes under the Agnipath scheme on Friday, the defence ministry stated.

The Indian Air Force had on June 24 started its recruitment process under the scheme and it received 2.72 lakh applications till Thursday, the ministry said.

Violent protests against the scheme had rocked several states for nearly a week after it was unveiled on June 14 and opposition parties demanded its rollback.

The Ministry of Defence

on Friday said on Twitter, "Registration for Agniveers in Indian Navy begins today."

"Join the Indian Army. Fulfill your dream of serving the country as Agniveer. Registration open for Agnipath recruitment scheme from July 1," it said.

Under the Agnipath scheme, youths from 17-and-a-half years to 21 years will be inducted into the armed forces for a four-year tenure, while 25 per cent of them will be subsequently inducted for regular service. The government had

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Six JKAS officers transferred

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The government on Friday transferred six JKAS officers. According to the order issued by Manoj Kumar Dwivedi, Principal Secretary, General Administration Department, Girdhari Lal, JKAS, Deputy Secretary, General Administration Department has been transferred and posted as Deputy Director, Estates, Jammu.

Hashmat Ali Yattoo, JKAS, Managing Director, J&K Handloom and Handicrafts Corporation has been transferred and posted as Administrator, Associated Hospitals, Srinagar;

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Dr Jitendra announces 8,000 mass promotions in one go

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Pensions, Grievances, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh, who is also Minister Incharge DoPT (Department of Personnel & Training), today announced mass promotion to over 8,000 government employees in one go. The promotions have been carried out by the DoPT (Department of Personnel & Training) and the promotees belong to three key Central Secretariat Services.

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Dr Jitendra said, it was disheartening to see government employees attaining retirement from service without getting one's due promotion and therefore the decision was taken in good faith and with a noble intention. Of the total of 8,089 promoted employees, 4,734 are from CSS, 2,966 from CSSS and 389 from CSCS.

Dr Singh said, the orders for mass promotion of these employees belonging to the Central Secretariat Service (CSS), Central Secretariat Stenographers' Service (CSSS) and Central Secretariat Clerical Service (CSCS) have been issued after several rounds of high-level meetings in

ADGP reviews security arrangements, monitors convoy movement along highway

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Additional Director General of Police Mukesh Singh on Friday reviewed security arrangements of the ongoing Amarnath Yatra along the Jammu-Srinagar national highway and directed the officers to prioritise convenience and safety of the pilgrims during convoy movement.

Singh, who was accompanied by other senior police officers, moved with the yatra convoy from Jammu to Lambar at Banihal in Ramban district, officials said.

The ADGP interacted with pilgrims and representatives from the civil administration



ADGP Jammu Mukesh Singh during visit to Banihal to review security arrangements.

at langar locations. They expressed satisfaction at the security arrangements and with the facilities, they said.

The district police chiefs of Jammu, Udhampur and Ramban also accompanied

and the yatis were happy, the officials said.

Vehicular traffic was smooth and care was taken by to regulate the yatra movement to ensure that no inconvenience was caused to daily commuters on the highway, they said.

The CRPF troops were alert and were working under close supervision of the officers, they added.

SSP Jammu, SSP Udhampur and SSP Ramban also accompanied the ADG Jammu en route and briefed him about the ROP and security arrangements. Instructions were given on the spot to remove deficiencies and to improve the set up.

Singh and briefed him about the road opening parties and security arrangements, they said.

The langar locations at Nashri, Chanderkot and Lambar had a festive look

WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)

Max: 33.3°C Min: 24.1°C

Humidity

Max: 98 Min: 68

Temperature (Srinagar)

Max: 33.9°C Min: 23.6°C

Humidity

Max: 68 Min: 44

Sunset : 19:43 Hours

Sunrise : 05:29 Hours