

03 Akhnoor Road Project: ‘Flyover from Canal Head to Ganesh Vihar likely to complete by July end’

06 Even 50 seats in 98-Member House no solution to 75-yr old Jammu’s political problem

08 Govt to promote StartUps in ‘carbon neutral’ building construction: Dr Jitendra

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

Violence, terrorism will achieve nothing: LG

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

GANDERBAL: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Saturday reiterated that the UT Government is commitment to ensure economic and social justice for all the citizens, adding that the impressive turnaround in various sectors during the last two years has succeeded in improving the quality of life.

"Violence and terrorism will achieve nothing", Sinha said while paying tributes to Late Sheikh Abdul Jabbar, a prominent political figure of J&K during a public event at Guriwan Lar, Ganderbal.

"We must remember the sacrifices of the heroes of J&K like Sheikh Abdul Jabbar and tread the path of peace to establish a progressive and prosperous society", the Lt Governor added.

The event was organized by Sheikh Jabbar Foundation to commemorate the 32nd death anniversary of Sheikh Abdul Jabbar.

"I pay my humble tributes to the brave son of Maa Bharti Sheikh Abdul Jabbar Sahib. A visionary grassroots



Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha addressing public event at Guriwan Lar, Ganderbal.

leader Sheikh Abdul Jabbar Sahib worked selflessly for the people and progress of J&K and made the supreme sacrifice for the nation", said the Lt Governor.

J&K UT is a symbol of India's unity and its greatness and we owe our strength to ancestors like Sheikh Abdul Jabbar. With their blessings, we have made impressive strides to socio-economic development and today J&K's growth is stronger than ever, the Lt Governor added.

Speaking on the occasion, the Lt Governor highlighted

the government's endeavours to bring transparency, accountability and efficiency in the governance system, besides reforms and policy decisions to accelerate unprecedented growth in sectors like Industries, education, healthcare, power, connectivity, infrastructure, sports, social security, self employment etc.

Public welfare reforms introduced by the government in the last two years are paying the dividend and people at the last ladder of development are receiving the benefits, the Lt Governor

said.

Our objectives are clear- Social justice, equitable development and prosperity of all citizens. Welfare of our Tribals, workers, youth, women and farmers is evident in the various schemes launched by the government. I expect every section of society, especially youth to contribute to the economic progress of J&K', the Lt Governor added.

Responding to the public demand to rename Government Hospital and bridge after Sheikh

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

J&K logs 74 COVID cases, Ladakh 11

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir's COVID-19 tally climbed to 4,55,257 on Saturday with 74 fresh cases, while no new deaths were reported, officials here said.

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

Of the fresh cases, 50 cases were reported from the Jammu division of the union territory and 24 from the Kashmir valley, the

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Two OGWs involved in anti-national activities booked under PSA in Doda

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Two Over Ground Workers (OGWs) allegedly involved in anti-national activities were booked under the stringent Public Safety Act (PSA) in Doda district of Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday, police said.

Saqib Hussain Mir of Banola-Chiralla and Adil Iqbal Batt of Sazan-Bhagwah were found running terror modules to

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9



Hitting the Golf ball hard like hitting hardcore terrorists; DGP Dilbag Singh throwing open the Golf Course at Srinagar on Saturday.

Judiciary answerable to ‘Constitution and Constitution alone’: CJI Ramana

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: In India a party in power believes that every governmental action is entitled to judicial endorsement and the opposition parties expect the judiciary to advance their political positions and causes but the "judiciary is answerable to the Constitution and

Constitution alone" Chief Justice of India N V Ramana said on Saturday.

He also expressed disappointment that even after 75 years of Independence people have not understood the roles and responsibilities assigned by the Constitution to each of the Institutions.

"The party in

of Independence this year and as our Republic turned 72, with some sense of regret I must add here that we still haven't learnt to appreciate wholly the roles and responsibilities assigned by the Constitution to each of the Institutions.

"The party in

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

J&K emerges as new route for transit of drugs through Punjab: IGP Border

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

CHANDIGARH: Jammu and Kashmir has emerged as a new route for the transit of drugs through Punjab, said a senior state police official on Saturday.

Punjab Inspector General of Police (Border Range) Mohan Chawla stated this a day after the recovery of 16-kg heroin from Gurdaspur district.

"The investigations into the 16-kg heroin recovery from Gurdaspur revealed that arrested persons have used national highway (connecting Jammu to Punjab) to bring this consignment from neighbouring Jammu by con-

cealing it in a specially designed compartments in two cars," said Chawla while addressing a virtual press conference.

The Gurdaspur police on Friday had arrested four persons following the recovery of 16.80 kg of heroin after intercepting two cars coming from the Jammu side.

The accused were identified as Manjinder Singh, alias Manna (28), Gurdit Singh, alias Gitta (35), and Bhola Singh (32), residents of Cheema Kalan village in Tarn Taran, and Kuldeep Singh, alias Keepa (32), of Kazi Kot Road in

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Three arrested for spying in Rajasthan

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAIPUR: Three people were arrested on the charge of espionage for Pakistani intelligence agencies, a top intelligence official said on Saturday.

The action was taken against three people out of the 23 suspects detained during a special drive, Operation Hifajat, conducted in border districts,

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

India slams USCIRF for ‘misrepresenting’ facts

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: India on Saturday slammed the US Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) for its "biased" and "inaccurate" comments on the country.

The strong reaction from the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) came a day after the USCIRF alleged "repression" of critical voices, especially religious

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Presidential poll: Only Murmu, Sinha left in fray

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: NDA nominee Droupadi Murmu and joint opposition candidate Yashwant Sinha are the only two left in the race for the president's office after the last day for the withdrawal of nomination ended on Saturday.

Rajya Sabha Secretary General P C Mody who is also the Returning Officer for the July 18 polls said 115 nomination papers by 94 individuals were received till June 29, of which 107 were rejected for not meeting the required criteria.

The nomination papers of

Murmu and Sinha, four sets each, were found to fulfil all the requirements of a valid nomination and were accepted, he said.

The Rajya Sabha Secretariat said in a statement that the voting will take place between 10 AM and 5 PM in Room Number 63 of the Parliament House, and in notified rooms in state assemblies.

The Electoral College for election to the Office of President of India comprises the elected members of both Houses of Parliament and the elected members of Legislative Assemblies of all

states, and the union territories of Delhi and Puducherry.

With several regional parties including the BJD, BSP and SAD extending their support to Murmu, the numbers are stacked in favour of the NDA nominee who is expected to win the polls comfortably.

MPs normally exercise their vote in the Parliament House, while members of state legislative assemblies, including the MLAs of the NCT of Delhi and the Union Territory of Puducherry, in their respective capitals at the places notified by the Election Commission of India.

Remarkable growth of J&K is example of our collective determination: Sinha

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Saturday attended a programme at Amar Singh Club to felicitate Dr Karan Singh.

Lauding the immense contributions of Dr Karan Singh in Public life, the Lt Governor called him a towering man of ideas and ideals.

Dr Singh with his multifaceted personality has made a remarkable contribution to Indian polity and illumined literary world with his intellectual brilliance, he said.

The Lt Governor called on



Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha felicitating Dr Karan Singh at Amar Singh Club, Srinagar.

the young generation especially those who are engaged in social service, literary field, to draw inspiration from the life of Dr Karan Singh.

"It was dreams of our founding fathers that development should be balanced, deeply rooted in the spiritual and cultural traditions of India. The remarkable, robust and resilient growth of J&K is finest example of our collective determination and triumph against various hurdles", the Lt

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Parked ambulance plunges into Chenab in Doda

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: An ambulance parked at a workshop for servicing, rolled down into river Chenab in Doda district on Saturday, officials said. No one was present inside the ambulance when it plunged into the river near Ganpath bridge, they said.

The CCTV footage of the incident shows the vehicle getting into reverse mode and crossing the road to the other side before disappearing after rolling down several hundred feet into the river.

A search is on to locate the submerged ambulance, the official said, adding it belonged to Medical Block Padder and its driver had parked the vehicle at the workshop for repairs and washing.

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)

Max: 35.1°C Min: 26.1°C

Humidity

Max : 62 Min : 57

Temperature (Srinagar)

Max: 33.4°C Min: 23.5°C

Humidity

Max : 64 Min: 49

Sunset : 19:43 Hours

Sunrise : 05:27 Hours

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: In order to provide an opportunity for millions of devotees of Baba Amarnath Ji across the globe who could not come for the Yatra this year, the Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board (SASB) is extending the online facility for performing virtual Pooja, Virtual Hawan, Prasad Booking etc., so that the devotees have a personalized experience of the of godliness and bliss of the holy cave shrine.

It was informed that the devotees can book their Pooja, Hawan, and Prasad online, and priests at the holy cave will offer it in the devo-

tee's name, besides the Prasad will be subsequently delivered at doorsteps of the devotees.

On the occasion, CEO, SASB, Sh Nitishwar Kumar noted that the online services can be booked through Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board's website www.shriamarnathjishrine.com by clicking Book Online Pooja/Hawan/Prasad link & through the Board's Mobile application (which may be downloaded through the link <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.ncog.shriamarnath>), by paying Rs 1100/- for virtual Pooja, Rs. 1100/- for Prasad booking



(with 5 gm silver coin of Shri Amarnathji), Rs. 2100/- for Prasad booking (with 10 gm silver coin of Shri Amarnathji) Rs. 5100/- for the special hawan or combi-

nation of any of the above.

The Virtual Pooja or Hawan would be carried out by the Pujaris at the Cave shrine by pronouncing the Name and Gotra of the devo-

tee along with chanting of Mantras and Shlokas.

"Maximizing the use of available technology and digitization, the devotees would be let in a virtual online room through Jio meet application wherein they can have a special virtual Pooja and Darshan of Lord Shiva,' he added.

"We have made an arrangement with the Postal Department for dispatching Prasad within 48 hours," CEO, SASB observed. Once the booking is done, the Shrine Board would share the link and date/time on the registered mobile number/ e-mail id of the devotee, he

said.

The portal has been developed by Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board with the help of National Informatics Centre, J&K.

Meanwhile, amid tight security arrangements, the fourth batch of 6,113 pilgrims, including 1,292 women, left the Bhagwati Nagar base camp here this morning to pay obeisance at the 3,880-metre-high holy cave shrine of Amarnath in south Kashmir Himalayas, officials said.

The pilgrims, also comprising 195 Sadhus and 25 children, will be reaching