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12 SASB starts souvenir counter facility for pilgrims at Baltal, Chandanwari

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Alleging conspiracy by LeT, BJP demands NIA probe into arrest of terrorist

Show-cause notice to Jammu Minority Morcha Chief over party's 'link' with ultra

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The BJP on Tuesday alleged a conspiracy by terror outfit Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) against the party and its leaders, and demanded a probe by the National Investigation Agency into the recent arrest of a terrorist.

The demand was made after a top terrorist named Talib Hussain Shah, who was nabbed in Reasi in Jammu and Kashmir, was reported to have connections with the Bharatiya Janata Party.

"LeT terrorist Talib Hussain Shah was briefly associated with a political party and also posed himself as a mediator," Jammu and Kashmir Director General of Police (DGP) Dilbag Singh said Monday. "As it is a serious matter, BJP is urging J&K Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha that probe into all aspects of this case should be conducted by NIA to uncover



J&K BJP Chief Ravinder Raina briefing media in Jammu.

this new terror plan (against BJP and its leaders). They must uncover as to how many more Talibs (militants) are part of this conspiracy and linked with the terror outfit," J&K BJP chief Ravinder Raina said.

He said that probe should be held against the terrorist to know about wider terror conspiracy, people involved and links with other such elements.

"We want a full probe into people behind the conspiracy, their links and their targets in BJP. We want to know who are from BJP were his targets", he said.

Raina said that Hussain have clearly tried to target BJP headquarter in Jammu and its top leaders, adding, "The time is to probe it deeply. All persons linked

should be arrested.

Ruling out any official relation between the political party and LeT terrorist, Raina said, "Talib Hussain Shah and his other associates were coming to the BJP office to cover press conferences regularly. He was also attending party rallies as a journalist."

He said that it was a new terror plan of the Pakistan-based LeT to set up a module to target BJP and its leaders by planting a terrorist as journalist to carry out receive of its office and track the leaders.

Meanwhile, having landed in a serious controversy following the photos of a Pakistan-backed LeT terrorist with top BJP leaders surfacing on social media, party's disciplinary committee has sought explanation on the issue from President of the Minority Morcha. The three-member disciplinary

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Crop Insurance Schemes in J&K approved

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta on Tuesday convened a meeting of State Level Coordination Committee on Crop Insurance (SLCCCI) for the implementation of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) and Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (RWBCIS) in Jammu and Kashmir. The Chief Secretary while

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XEn of Jal Shakti Deptt placed under suspension

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The J&K government today placed an Executive Engineer (XEn) of Jal Shakti Department, Tarun Kumar Arora under suspension.

An order issued by Principal Secretary to government, Jal Shakti Department Ashok Kumar Parmar reads, "pending enquiry into the matter, Tarun Kumar Arora, Executive Engineer,

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Ex-judges slam SC remarks against Nupur Sharma, bar body backs observations

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The legal fraternity on Tuesday appeared elated over the inculpatory observations made by the Supreme Court against suspended BJP spokesperson Nupur Sharma, with a group of former judges alleging the bench crossed the "Laxman Rekha" but a top lawyers' body finding no fault with the oral observations made by the court in the course of a hearing.

The groups of former judges were joined by former All India Services Officers and defence services veterans who said the apex court's comments had left an "indelible scar on the justice system of the largest democracy".

The group, comprising 15 former high court judges, 77 ex-all India services officers and 25 veterans, alleged that the "unfortunate" comments are not in sync with the judicial ethos and have sent "shockwaves" in the country and outside.

"In the annals of the judiciary, the unfortunate comments have no parallel and are an indelible scar on the justice system of the largest democracy. Urgent rectification steps are called for as these have potentially serious consequences on democratic values and security of the country," they said in a signed statement.

The 117 signatories include former chief justice of the Bombay High Court Kshitij Vyas, former Kerala High Court judge P N Ravindran, former Gujarat High Court judge S M Soni, former Rajasthan High Court judges R S Rathore and Prashant Agarwal and former Delhi High Court judge S N Dhingra.

Former IAS officers Anand Bose, R S Gopalan and S Krishna Kumar, ambassador (retired) Niranjan Desai, former DGPs S P Vaid and B L Vohra, Lt Gen V K Chaturvedi (retired) and Air Marshall (retired) S P Singh

have also signed the statement.

The All India Bar Association, meanwhile, wrote a letter urging Chief Justice of India (CJI) N V Ramana not to take cognisance of a letter petition which has sought withdrawal of adverse remarks against Nupur Sharma and noted that the AIBA "appreciates" the observations made by the two judges.

The AIBA's letter, written by its chairperson and senior advocate Adish C Aggarwala, said, During the course of hearing of any matter, the judges engage with the counsels. They don't maintain sphinx-like silence.

"While engaging with counsel, it is natural for judges to open up and make observations and suggestions. The question of expunging observations, even if irrelevant, shouldn't arise since these remarks are only observations without any

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7 JKAS officers transferred, Sr Pvt Secy promoted

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The government on Tuesday transferred seven JKAS officers.

According to an order issued by Manoj Kumar Dwivedi, Principal Secretary, General Administration Department, Sukhdev Singh Samyal, JKAS, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Nowshera, holding additional charge of Sub-Registrar, Nowshera has been transferred and posted as Additional Secretary, Social Welfare Department; Shokat Mehmood, JKAS, Joint Director, School Education, Jammu as Programme

Officer, ICDS Project, Rajouri; Subah Mehta, JKAS, General Manager, DIC, Jammu as Joint Director, School Education, Jammu; Kartar Singh, JKAS, Programme Officer, ICDS Project, Rajouri as Additional Deputy Commissioner, Nowshera. He shall also hold the charge of Sub-Registrar, Nowshera, in addition to his own duties, till further orders.

Virender Kumar Manyal, JKAS, Additional Secretary, Social Welfare Department, has been transferred and posted as General Manager,

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Will not allow terrorism to take root again, say residents of Mahore village

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a remote hamlet in the Mahore belt of Reasi district that was once a hotbed of terrorism, villagers who displayed exemplary courage by overpowering two heavily-armed Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) terrorists say they are determined not to let terrorists regain ground.

The terrorists who were later identified as the most-wanted LeT commander Talib Hussain Shah - the mastermind behind a series of explosions in his home district Rajouri - and his associate Faisal Ahmad Dar of south Kashmir's Pulwama

district were escaping the dragnet of security forces and had reached the village for shelter on Saturday night.

The six close relatives kept their wits about them as they took on the two armed terrorists bare-handed in an hour-long confrontation in the hilltop village that can be reached only after trekking for over two hours from the last motorable road.

When I returned to my 'dhok' (hamlet) in the evening (on Saturday) after work, I saw two unknown persons inside the house and got suspicious as they intro-

duced themselves as businessmen. They ordered me to switch off the mobile and keep it on the floor. They also restricted me from going outside, Mohammad Yousuf said.

As it was dark, Yousuf said, he tricked the terrorists by keeping his mobile phone on the ground with one hand and swooping it up with the other before pleading with them to let him go outside to attend nature's call.

Outside the premises, Yousuf said he telephoned his brother and told him that this might be our last conversation as some people have

come to my house and collected all the information about our extended family. They might kill us all.

Panicked by the phone call, his brother Nazir Ahmad contacted other relatives Roshan Din, Shamsuddin, Mushtaq Ahmad and Mohammad Iqbal and they together decided to take on the terrorists as it would have taken a lot of time for the security forces to reach the densely forested area.

When we reached there in the dead of the night, we saw the terrorists sleeping inside the house while Yousuf

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6,351 pilgrims leave for Amarnath shrine from Jammu



Amarnath Yatriis arriving at Bhagwati Nagar base camp.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Amid tight security, the sixth batch of over 6,300 Amarnath pilgrims on Tuesday left for the 3,880-metre-high cave shrine of Amarnath in south Kashmir,

officials said.

A total of 6,351 pilgrims left the Bhagwati Nagar Yatri Niwas here in a convoy of 239 vehicles amid heavy security of CRPF, the

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Mentally-challenged man detained near LoC

STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH: A mentally-challenged person was on Tuesday detained after he was moving in a suspicious manner in a forward village near the Line of Control (LoC) in Poonch district of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said. He has been identified as Shiv Kumar

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J&K records 84 new COVID cases, Ladakh 6

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir reported 84 new COVID-19 cases on Tuesday, raising its tally to 4,55,475, officials said.

No death due to the disease was reported in the past 24 hours, they said.

Of the fresh case, 64 cases were reported from the Jammu division and 20 from the Kashmir Valley, the officials said here.

A total of 4,757 death related to COVID-19

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WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)

Max: 35.9°C Min: 26.8°C

Humidity

Max: 85 Min: 59

Temperature (Srinagar)

Max: 26.9°C Min: 20.8°C

Humidity

Max: 95 Min: 71

Sunset : 19:43 Hours

Sunrise : 05:31 Hours

Agnipath Recruitment Rally for Kashmiri aspirants from Sep 17; registration to begin today

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Pandurang K Pole on Tuesday held a brief meeting with Director Recruiting, Army Recruiting Officer, Col G Suresh to discuss the recruitment rally as per newly announced AGNIPATH in Kashmir and other related issues.

The Col G Suresh informed that notification for conduct of recruitment rally for candidates of ten districts of UT of J&K including Srinagar, Budagn, Bandipora, Ganderbal, Baramulla, Kupwara, Anantnag,

IAF receives 7.5 lakh applications under Agnipath scheme; closes registration

NEW DELHI: The Indian Air Force (IAF) on Tuesday said it has received 7.5 lakh applications under the "Agnipath" recruitment scheme.

The registration process under the scheme began on June 24 and ended on Tuesday. After the scheme was unveiled on June 14, violent protests against it rocked several states for nearly a week and various opposition parties demanded its rollback.

"The online registration process conducted by IAF towards Agnipath Recruitment Scheme has been completed," the IAF said on Twitter. "Compared to 6,31,528 applications in the past, which was the highest in

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Shopian, Kulgam and Pulwama shall be held from September 17 to September 31, at Haiderbeigh Pattan.

He further informed that the notice has been been uploaded on Army

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Parkash Purab of Sri Guru Hargobind Sahib celebrated with religious fervour at Gurdwara Talli Sahib

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Parkash Purab of Sahib Sri Guru Hargobind Sahib was celebrated with great fervor, devotion and utmost religious sentiments at Gurdwara Talli Sahib, Canal Road, here on Tuesday.

A large number of Sikh devotees from all over Jammu region paid their tribute to Guru Maharaj.

The newly framed committee of DGPC made all arrangements for devotees including Guru Ka Langar.

Besides local Ragi Jathas namely Bhai Davinder Singh & Rattan Singh Hazuri Ragi DGPC, Bhai Sahib Davinder Singh Hazuri Ragi from Darbar Sahib, Bhai Nachatar Singh Parcharak Gurnat Gyan Missionary College Ludhiana & Dadhi Jatha of Bhai Gurpreet Singh Landra Punjab recited Gurbani Kirtan and Katha



Parkash Purab celebrations of Sri Guru Hargobind Sahib at Gurdwara Talli Sahib on Tuesday.

Vichar during the Samagam. On the occasion, the meritorious Sikh students, who secured more

than 95% marks in the recently declared 12th class State board Exams, were felicitated and given

Pratik D Punjabi joins J&K Bank as CFO

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Pratik D Punjabi on Tuesday joined J&K Bank as Chief Financial Officer (CFO) replacing Rajni Saraf, who superannuated on June 30. He was appointed as CFO by the Bank's Board of Directors on 10th June for a three year term.

As Chartered Accountant from ICAI and having worked at Kotak Mahindra Group, IDBI Bank, Bank of America and HSBC besides leadership role in First Abu Dhabi Bank and a top rated finance company in Oman, MUSCAT Finance SAOG; Pratik D Punjabi

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ED raids 44 locations linked to Vivo, other related firms in money laundering case

ED sleuths raided VIVO Office in Jammu at Surya Tower, near Bahu Plaza

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU/ NEW DELHI: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Tuesday conducted searches at 44 places across the country in a money laundering investigation against Chinese smartphone manufacturing company Vivo and related firms, officials said.

The searches are being carried out under sections of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) at locations in several states including in Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Meghalaya, Maharashtra and others. The agency is conducting



ED sleuths along with police during raid in VIVO office at Bahu Plaza in Jammu on Tuesday.

searches at 44 places related to Vivo and associated companies, they said.

A query sent by PTI to Vivo did not elicit a response. The

news piece will be updated once the company issues a statement. The federal agency filed a money

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Free coaching for NEET, JEE launched for tribal students in J&K

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir Tribal Affairs Department on Tuesday launched a first-of-its-kind initiative to provide coaching for meritorious tribal students preparing for NEET and JEE entrance exams, officials said.

The course fee will be sponsored by the department and the candidates qualifying for the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) and Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) after coaching will also be provided with a scholarship, they said.

Tribal Affairs Department Secretary Shahid Iqbal Choudhary said 100 tribal students are being selected for NEET coaching in government-empowered coach-

ing institutes, under two different sub-schemes.

The two sub-schemes are 'Host-50' for hostellers and 'Top-50' for other tribal meritorious students in the first year under the scheme which is being implemented through the education wing of the Tribal Research Institute.

Choudhary said the coaching fee for NEET and JEE at select institutions would be sponsored by the department after verification of attendance and evaluation.

The candidates selected for courses like MBBS, BVSc and AH, BDS, BAMS, BE, BTech and other professional courses shall be provided with an annual scholarship of Rs 70,000-75,000

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