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BLUE MOON
Banquets • Conventions

THE BANQUET WITH A DIFFERENCE



National Highway, Near Thandi Khul, Jammu
Contact: 9086035550, 9086035551

02

Sub-inspector assaulted, FIR registered

03

Dr Jitendra withdraws ‘DNA Bill’ since Parliament enacts ‘Criminal Procedure Act’

09

Two cops including SI 'violently and brutally' assaulted; 8 culprits identified, manhunt on to nab them

UT Admin, GoI committed to ensure all arrangements for safe, hassle- free conduct of Muharram: LG



LG Manoj Sinha chairing high level meeting to review Muharram arrangements with eminent representatives of Shia Community, Officials of Civil and Police Administration at Srinagar on Monday.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday said that the Union Territory administration and Government of India (GoI) are working with sensitivity and commitment to ensure that all arrangements are made for smooth, safe and hassle-free conduct of Muharram.

"This is the occasion of

utmost religious importance for all of us", the Lieutenant Governor said while chairing a high level meeting to review arrangements for Muharram.

The meeting at Civil Secretariat was attended by heads of religious organisations, eminent members of Shia Community; Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary; Dr Mandeep

Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lt Governor; M.K Sinha, ADGP Hqrs; Vijay Kumar, ADGP Kashmir; Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; Administrative Secretaries; Deputy Commissioners; Heads of Departments and other senior officers of UT administration.

The Lt Governor directed

the Deputy Commissioners to ensure improved connectivity to Imambaras, power supply, availability of extra ration, water and basic amenities, regular market inspection, cleanliness, traffic management, best possible medical facilities to the people. He also sought valuable inputs from the eminent representatives of

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Police begins investigation after 'blast-like' sound heard in Jammu locality

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A blast-like sound was heard in a congested locality in the heart of Jammu city, officials said on Monday. However, there were no reports of any damage.

The sound was reported from the Kachi Chawni area around 10 pm on Sunday, they said.

"... a blast-like sound was reportedly heard from the Kachi Chawni area. Police and forensic teams, along with technical experts, visited the spot and the matter is being investigated," Senior Superintendent of Police (Jammu) Chandan Kohli said.

Shiv Sena (Hindustan) chief Rajesh Kesari said he heard a deafening noise in a narrow lane outside his home and immediately informed the local police station.

"A police party reached the site and started a probe. They took away CCTV footage and samples from the scene," he said.

Surge in infiltration due to Pakistan's frustration over G20 success in Kashmir

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: As Jammu and Kashmir recently witnessed a surge in infiltration attempts from across the border with over 20 terrorists being eliminated by Army personnel in two months, security experts point to Pakistan's frustration with the successful G20 meeting in Kashmir.

The surge in the infiltration from across the LoC gained momentum in May, around the time of the G20 event, and it continued into June and July.

Former J-K director general of police Kuldeep Khoda stressed that Pakistan has renewed its efforts to increase terrorism in the Union territory but the security forces and police have effectively countered these attempts, resulting in a decrease in incidents of militancy and depletion of over-ground support.

"For the past 10 to 12

years, the level of militancy has gone down in the Jammu region, prompting authorities to dilute the security grid due to betterment in the security situation. Taking benefit of the same, they (Pakistani terror setup) have tried to infiltrate more terrorists in Poonch region," he alleged.

"There have been some incidents in which there was a loss to security forces," Khoda said.

He emphasized that despite a low level of militancy in the Jammu region for the past decade, the security grid remains vigilant and continues to strengthen to combat infiltrations.

Overall, the security forces are determined to prevent any attempt at disturbing the peace and tranquillity in the region, and they remain on high alert to counter any mischief orchestrated from across the border, the former DGP said.

The surge in infiltration attempts gained momentum after the successful conclusion of the G20 events in the Kashmir valley which took place from May 22 to 24.

The event was attended by representatives from G20 member countries, international organisations, and industry stakeholders.

Security expert Captain Anil Gaur highlighted that Pakistan's inability to disrupt the G20 conclave in Kashmir led to their escalated efforts to engineer infiltrations along the LoC, aiming to disturb the region.

"After the abrogation of Article 370, the terror infrastructure was eliminated by the security forces. It restored the environment of peace and normalcy in Kashmir and India conducted a G20 meeting in Kashmir." "Due to its success, Pakistan got very frustrated as they never wanted

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No proposal to extend deadline for exchange of Rs 2,000 notes: Fin Min

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: The finance ministry on Monday said there is no proposal to extend the deadline for the exchange of Rs 2,000 notes beyond September 30, 2023.

In a written reply in the Lok Sabha, Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary replied in negative to a question about whether there is a proposal to extend the deadline for the exchange of Rs 2000 in

banks beyond September 30. "At present, this matter is not under consideration," the minister said.

Chaudhary also replied in negative to another question about whether the government is planning to demonetise other high-denomination currency notes to eliminate black money.

The Reserve Bank, in a surprise move, on May 19 announced withdrawal of Rs 2,000 notes from

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Gyanvapi row: SC halts ASI's survey at premises till July 26

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: In a relief to the Gyanvapi management committee, the Supreme Court on Monday halted till 5 pm of July 26 a "detailed scientific survey" by the ASI to determine if the mosque located next to the Kashi Vishwanath temple in Varanasi was built upon a temple, saying "some breathing time" needed to be granted to appeal a district court order.

A Varanasi court had on Friday directed the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) to conduct the survey, including excavations, wherever necessary, to determine if the mosque was

Chronology of events in Gyanvapi mosque row

NEW DELHI: Following is the timeline of developments in the Gyanvapi row, in which the Supreme Court on Monday halted till 5 pm on July 26 the Archaeological Survey of India's "detailed scientific survey" to determine if the mosque located next to the Kashi Vishwanath temple in Varanasi was built upon a temple.

August 2021: Plea filed before a Varanasi civil court by five Hindu devotees seeking permission to offer daily prayers at the Gyanvapi mosque.

April 8, 2022: Civil court orders a survey of the premises and appoints Ajay Kumar Mishra as in-charge of the exercise.

May 13, 2022: Supreme Court refuses interim order of status quo on the survey of the Gyanvapi-Shringar Gauri complex.

May 17, 2022: SC passes interim order directing the district magistrate of Varanasi to ensure protection of the area inside the complex.

May 20, 2022: SC transfers the case from a civil judge to a district judge.

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Prof Rahul Gupta appointed Registrar JU

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Prof. Rahul Gupta from the Department




of Statistics, University of Jammu (JU) was on Monday appointed as Registrar University of Jammu. The order reads "Prof. Rahul Gupta Department of Statistics shall function as Registrar University of Jammu from July 25, 2023 till further orders, in addition to his existing duties, reliving Prof. Arvind Jasrotia of the additional charge of the Registrar on his request."

Prof. Rahul Gupta, M.Sc Statistics (Gold Medallist, 1990), Ph.D Statistics (1995), JU, is Professor of Statistics since August 1, 2011.

He has been Ex Director, UGC-Human Research Development Centre, JU, Rector, Bhaderwah Campus, JU, and having 30 years teaching and research experience in Higher

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WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 35.3°C Min: 26.4°C

Humidity
Max: 79 Min: 65

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 29.8°C Min: 18.2°C

Humidity
Max: 81 Min: 52

Sunset : 19:31 Hours
Sunrise : 05:32 Hours

J&K leads country by holding over 1.5 lakh events under AKAM



CS, A K Mehta chairing a meeting at Srinagar.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta on Monday chaired a meeting to take stock of the preparations to be made for grand celebration of the finale of Azadika Amrit

Mahotsav (AKAM), going on from last more than one year.

The meeting was attended by all the Administrative Secretaries, ADGP Kashmir/Jammu; Divisional Commissioner Kashmir/Jammu; Deputy

Commissioners and Districts SPs besides other concerned officers.

The Chief Secretary took this occasion to applaud the Divisional and District Administration for their untiring efforts during all these months to make the UT reach to top of the table by organising more events than other states/UTs under AKAM program.

Dr Mehta impressed upon the officers that the celebrations of the culmination of this nationwide festival should be made at each level right from the

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Two dead as truck falls into ditch

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Two persons, including a Madhya Pradesh resident, were killed after a truck crashed into the safety barriers before landing into a ditch at a road construction site along the Jammu-Pathankot national highway here, police said.

The accident took place near Kahuchak on the outskirts of Jammu city around 6.30 am when the driver of a Samba-bound truck lost control and crushed a pedestrian before hitting the barriers set up by a construction agency to safeguard its workers engaged in road construction, Station

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Inclusive development taking place in J&K: Chugh

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Bharatiya Janata Party's National General Secretary Tarun Chugh said on Monday that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the government has only one aim to write a new chapter of development in the field of tourism, industry, youth, employment, development of women, infrastructure, education and health in Jammu and Kashmir.

"Peace has come in Kashmir, which is imperative for development", Tarun

Chugh said during his interaction with the BJP office bearers, adding that inclusive development is taking



place in Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting discussed elaborately the office management as well as polit-

ical and contemporary issues.

"Though the opposition parties like National Conference, PDP, etc. keep on doing politics of spreading confusion, but they should come out of their homes and visit Jammu and Kashmir to see that a new saga of peace and development is being written now," Chugh said. State Vice President of BJP Jammu and Kashmir Aseem Gupta, State Secretary Arvind Gupta, former MLC Vikram Randhawa and Office Minister Tilak Raj Gupta were also present on the occasion.

J&K Bank's Q1 PAT zooms 97 pc YoY to Rs 326 Cr

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: In an impressive Q1 performance, J&K Bank's net profit has jumped 97% Year-on-Year (YoY) to almost double its Profit-After-Tax (PAT) to Rs 326.45 Cr for the first quarter of FY 2023-24 when compared to Rs 165.97 Cr recorded for the April-June quarter last financial year.

The Bank announced its Q1 results today after the Bank's Board of Directors approved the quarterly numbers in a meeting held here at the Bank's Corporate Headquarters.

The Bank's Net interest income (NII) rose 24% YoY to Rs 1283.30 Cr in the first quarter of CFY, while as, the Net Interest Margin (NIM) improved to 3.98% as compared to 3.46% registered in

Q1 of FY 2023 and 3.94% recorded in the last quarter of FY 2023.

Core operating profit of the Bank witnessed a sharp spike of 38% YoY and reached Rs 528.05 Cr from Rs 381.45 Cr. Besides witnessing rise of 22% YoY and 7% QoQ in its operating income, the Bank's Cost to Income Ratio for the quarter has reduced to 65.07% as against 69.17% recorded Q1 last FY. The Bank's Return on Assets (RoA) for the June quarter was at 0.94%

Commenting upon the Bank's results, MD & CEO Baldev Prakash said, "With an almost doubled Year-on-Year PAT, our Q1 performance gives us a very encouraging start to meet our annual guidance. Reflecting

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