

Neelha
Multispeciality Institute
Dr. Shitiz Gupta
M.S., M.Ch.(Plastic Surgery)
Consultant Plastic & Aesthetic Surgeon
Dr. Shikha Dhawan
M.S.(Obs. & Gynae.), D.N.B.(Obs. & Gynae.)
Consultant Obstetrician & Gynaecologist
24-A, Shastrri Nagar
(at Dr. Bharat Bhushan Gupta's Clinic), Jammu.
☎ 9419114877

STATE TIMES

THE BOLD VOICE OF J&K

RNI No. : 66908/96

Vol. 29 Issue 211 • Jammu • Wednesday • July 31, 2024 • Pages 10+2=12 • ₹ 5.00

Regd. No. L-29/JK-346/22-24

Air surcharge 50 paise for Leh

BLUE MOON
Banquets • Conventions
THE BANQUET WITH A DIFFERENCE
National Highway, Near Thandi Khul, Jammu
Contact: 9086035550, 9086035551

03 JPDCL's TEC approves several power supply schemes for Jammu division

09 At least 123 dead, 128 injured in Kerala landslides

10 AIIMS Jammu to commence OPD Services from August 1

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

AC approves conferment of proprietary rights upon West Pakistan DPs, DPs of 1965

Revised administrative approval for construction of transit accommodation for Kashmir Migrant Govt Employees approved



LG Manoj Sinha chairing Administrative Council meeting at Srinagar on Tuesday.

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The Administrative Council (AC), which met here on Tuesday under chairmanship of Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha in a significant decision ended discrimination with the West Pakistan Displaced Persons by granting proprietary rights on State land in favour of such families.

Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary, Dr Mandeep K

Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor were present in the meeting.

This shall significantly empower thousands of families across Jammu region. It is pertinent to mention that post re-organization of year 2019, Domicile rights have been conferred by Government of India to the West Pakistan Displaced Persons.

The decision fulfills demands of all connected families, which have been

requesting for ownership rights since past so many decades. Vesting of proprietary right to West Pakistan Displaced Persons on State land would bring them at par with the Displaced Persons of POJK and their long pending demand will also be fulfilled.

The Administrative Council also approved conferment of proprietary rights upon Displaced Persons of 1965 in respect of state land. The Government has always remained committed to pro-

vide benefits to the Displaced Persons of 1965 as has been granted to Displaced Persons of 1947 and 1971.

Revenue Department shall ensure that proper safeguards are built in the operational guidelines to prevent any misuse particularly unauthorized encroachments on the state land.

The Administrative Council also approved revised administrative approval for construction of 6,000 Transit Accommodations in Kashmir Valley for Kashmir Migrant Government Employees engaged under PMDP-2015 and taking up allied works at various locations of Transit Accommodations in Kashmir Valley.

The decision is aimed at creating some allied infrastructure facilities for the transit accommodations which shall facilitate early allotment of quarters to the employees.

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

LS passes Union Budget, J&K Budget 2024-25

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The Lok Sabha approved the Rs 48.21-lakh crore Budget for 2024-25 of the Union Government.

The lower House also approved the budget of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir with a voice vote.

The Union Budget and Budget for J&K was passed by a voice vote by the Lok Sabha. The relevant appropriation bills were

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

1,477 pilgrims leave Jammu to join Shri Amarnathji Yatra

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Amid chants of "Bum Bum Bholey", more than 1,400 pilgrims left Jammu in the early hours of Tuesday for the twin base camps in Kashmir to join the Amarnath Yatra, officials said.

The pilgrims were escorted by Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and police personnel.

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

HM operative arrested in Jammu; Search ops launched in Poonch, Rajouri

People asked not to visit Rajouri forests wearing blankets during night hours

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU/POONCH/RAJOURI: A Hizbul Mujahideen operative was arrested as the security forces conducted search operations in different parts of Poonch, Rajouri, Kishtwar and Doda districts in Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday, officials said.

Abdul Khalil, a resident of north Kashmir's Bandipora, was arrested from Surankote area of Poonch district during an anti-terrorist operation, the officials said.

A pistol and some ammunition were recovered from the possession of Khalil, who is working as a guide to facilitate infiltrating terrorists of proscribed Hizbul Mujahideen terror outfit, they said.

The officials said that a mobile phone with multiple Pakistani SIM cards were also recovered from the possession of the arrested terror operative.

Meanwhile, the security



forces have launched a cordon and search operation following information about movement of two suspected terrorists in a remote village in Poonch district, officials said this afternoon.

The two armed suspects, dressed in black, were seen moving in Salampura village near Dehra Ki Gali late Monday night, they said.

Police assisted by the Rashtriya Rifles and CRPF

launched a joint operation immediately after getting the information.

The suspected terrorists were seen moving towards lower Pangai, they said, adding the search operation is underway but there was no contact with the suspected terrorists so far.

The officials said security forces also launched a search operation at Sanai.

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

OROP: SC pulls up Centre over delay in resolving pension anomalies of regular Captains



STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court came down heavily on the Centre on Tuesday for failing to take any decision for years on the pension payable to retired regular captains of the Army in accordance with the One Rank One Pension (OROP)

scheme and imposed a fine of Rs 2 lakh on it.

A bench of Justices Sanjiv Khanna and R Mahadevan gave one last opportunity to the Centre till November 14 for resolving the anomalies with regard to the pension of such retired officers

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

High temperature disrupts flights to high altitude Leh airport

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: High temperature at high altitude is disrupting flight operations to and from Leh, located at nearly 10,700 feet above the mean sea level.

Domestic airlines operate A320 and B737 planes to the Leh airport and some carriers have been cancelling their scheduled flights in recent days due to high temperatures, according to industry officials.

Details about the number of Leh flights cancelled on Tuesday could not be ascertained.

"IndiGo flight operations to and from Leh have been impacted due to the prevailing high outside air temperature in Leh, which is beyond the airline's control," an airline spokesperson said in a statement.

The maximum temperature at which an A320 Neo aircraft can operate is 33 degrees Celsius. If the temperature crosses that

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

ED raids against Ex-Branch Manager of J&K Grameen Bank, others

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI/SRINAGAR: The Enforcement Directorate on Tuesday said it seized documents and digital devices after it searched multiple premises in Jammu and Kashmir as part of an alleged bank funds fraud case against a former branch manager of Jammu and Kashmir Grameen Bank and some other persons.

The raids against the former banker -- Istiyaq Ahmad Parry -- and others were launched on Monday and five premises in Srinagar and Pattan were covered.

The money laundering case

stems from charge sheets filed by the CBI against Parry, who is "in connivance" with other accused private persons, like bank correspondent Mohd Maqbool Ganie, Manzoor Ahmad Dar, Mushtaq Hussain Wani, Shabir Ahmad Dar, Shabir Ahmad Bhat, Nissar Ahmad Dar and others "fraudulently" sanctioned the Kisan Cash Credit loans (KCC), car loans, joint liability groups (JLGs), and cash credit limits (CC) to fake or non-existing customers, the agency alleged.

There were a total of 250

"fake" loan accounts, which later turned out to be non-performing assets (NPA). This led to "embezzlement" of Rs 8.36 crore bank funds, the central agency said in a statement.

The loans were sanctioned between 2014 and 2018.

The majority of the funds received as loans were transferred to either the accused or the relatives of the accused from where proceeds were withdrawn mostly in cash, the ED said.

The loans were mostly sanctioned on the basis of forged or fake

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Man involved in unlawful activities booked under PSA

STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: A man allegedly involved in unlawful activities has been detained under the stringent Public Safety Act (PSA) in Rajouri district, police said on Tuesday.

The accused Mohd Aslam alias Qari was detained under PSA on the orders of district magistrate, Rajouri and lodged in district jail, a police spokesman said.

Aslam, originally from village Khoriwali-Darhal, was earlier named in a criminal case registered at Thanamandi police station in 2012 under various sections of Unlawful

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Rahul Gandhi has become 'pawn of foreign powers', spreading divisive agenda: Chugh

STATE TIMES NEWS

CHANDIGARH: BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh on Tuesday strongly condemned Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi for promoting a divisive agenda in the country.

In a statement, Chugh said that the sole purpose of Rahul Gandhi's address in the Lok Sabha was to foster class division in society for his political gains. It appears that Rahul Gandhi is playing into the hands of foreign powers to create class divisions and push the coun-

try into a state of unrest, he added.

Chugh noted that instead of discussing various fea-



tures of the budget, Rahul Gandhi's focus was on creating division at a time when the Modi government is moving forward with the core mantra of "Sabka Saath,

Sabka Vikas" (Together with All, Development for All).

Chugh criticized Rahul Gandhi for misleading the country on caste-based reservations and spreading falsehoods. He pointed out that the Gandhi family has a long history of spreading social discord and frenzy. He advised Rahul Gandhi to read about the opposition to OBC reservations by his ancestors, former Prime Ministers Indra Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi. Rajiv Gandhi vehemently opposed OBC reservations in the House, and both Indra Gandhi

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Counter-offensive against Pak terror should be big and full of surprises



JAMMU: There is a clamour for counter-offensive against Pakistan or what it has done via its new brand of terrorists in recent weeks, targeting the Indian army soldiers in Jammu region. This outcry is justified as no nation can ever tolerate the loss of its soldiers at the hands of terrorists coming from a hostile country. Pakistan has chosen wrong place to target the soldiers - Jammu is a region where patriotism overflows due to the historical reasons. Even before Jammu and Kashmir became part of India with the signing of the Instrument of Accession by Maharaja Hari Singh in October 1947, the people of this region were looking for inspiration to the idea of the country that was in process of Partition.

Jammu is now known as poor cousin of Kashmir; this is because of the arrogance and domination of the Kashmir-based political parties, which were exacting their revenge on the people of the region for they had opposed their "Quit Kashmir" agitation. The agitation was against the Dogra king, who for all reasons had been a fair and benevolent ruler and Jammu could not

tolerate this insult. At some point in time whenever history is written in the manner as it unfolded in 1940s, it should be reflected that "Quit India" movement was against foreigners- bruisers whereas "Quit Kashmir" was against the legitimate and democratic ruler and Jammu people.

Pakistan could not succeed in its designs in 1947 when it launched tribal invasion of Jammu and Kashmir because of two formidable reasons; the Indian army that landed in the erstwhile state after the October 26, 1947 accession, and the people of Jammu. The two complimented each other.

After having seen the behavior and the supreme sacrifices that Jammu made to foil Pakistan's diabolical plans, Rawalpindi, the real power center in Pakistan because that being the headquarters of army there, resorted to this new strategy to bleed Jammu. But Pakistan underestimated the region's response. The people did not take terror attacks on the army vehicles lying down. They came out in streets, held anti-Pakistan demonstrations and burnt effigies of leaders of the neighboring country. They stood up against Pakistan's terror and were more than willing to be

Outpouring of emotions on streets is not just a knee-jerk reaction. It's a strategic move that conveys to the adversary that they stand behind their security forces, no matter how grave the situation may be. They want Pakistan to know and comprehend it in full measure that there is a strong line of defence behind the armed forces along with the borders and hinterland. They are also keen to become partners in military's strategy in neutralizing the adversary's evil designs anywhere and everywhere. The VDGs- Village Defence Guards- are more than foot soldiers.

Taking this into account, one can appreciate the way army and J&K police have been working overtime in the past month ever since the terror attacks started jolting the region to come out with a strategy to counter terrorism. They have not rushed into panic nor have they pressed the panic button, the clear signs of forces that are full of confidence. This confidence is related to the overall strategy to understand the game plan of Pakistan and its motives. There is a lot of truth in the fact that Pakistan wants to bleed Jammu and Kashmir as has been its policy, using terrorism as its foreign policy tool, to rake up Kashmir issue at

international fora. This is ingrained in its genes. There are certain obstinate nations that refuse to learn their lessons, Pakistan stands at the frontline of such nation states, which have come to be defined as failed nations.

During June-July 2024, Pakistan has more underlined pursuits than mere getting Kashmir on the international stage. Kashmir has been its talking point for the international audience - most of the times at United Nations, Organization of Islamic Cooperation and few regional groups - Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO). This time it is trying to send a message of vulnerability of Indian state in the region that is an icon of Indian nationalism and that stood like a rock behind every decision that Delhi made.

Counter-offensive should be harder than the traditional one. What could that be should be kept as a surprise, as it is also clear now that Pakistan has not changed its behavior after surgical and aerial strikes on its soil. Jammu region has responsibility to suggest ideas to isolate Pakistan and fight its strongest machinery terrorism through which it seeks its relevance. Its bluff should be called and that also soon.

WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 36.4°C Min: 27.4°C

Humidity
Max: 76 Min: 64

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 31.7°C Min: 21.6°C

Humidity
Max: 80 Min: 48

Sunset : 19:30 Hours
Sunrise : 05:43 Hours