

**02** Major drug smuggling bid foiled; 3 arrested, 400 bottles of corex, 970 intoxicating injections/ tablets recovered

**03** Chief Commissioner CGST Chandigarh Zone chairs 2nd meeting of GRC

**10** Indian men's team stuns formidable Japan in Asian U-20 Volleyball Championship

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## 28th National Masters TT Championships inaugurated at Srinagar Efforts on to harness power of youth, unleash their potential in sporting arena: LG



LG Manoj Sinha speaking at inaugural function of 28th National Masters Table Tennis Championships at Srinagar.

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday said that Jammu and Kashmir administration has accorded top priority to the sports and opportunities as well as resources have been created to fulfill the dreams and aspirations of millions of talented youths.

"The government's effort is to harness the power of youth so that they can unleash their full potential in sporting arena", Sinha said while speaking at the

inaugural function of 28th National Masters Table Tennis Championships 2022 at SK Indoor Sports Complex, Srinagar.

Organised by J&K Table Tennis Association, in collaboration with J&K Sports Council and Indian Veterans Table Tennis Committee under the aegis of Table Tennis Federation of India, over 1000 players and officials from 28 states, 8 UTs and different institutions are competing in the championship. Sports Council has been making

extraordinary efforts to create world-class infrastructure, supporting athletes and coaches to deliver performances on national and the world stage, he added.

Sports Council is reaching out to every young talent, today. Be it water sports, cricket, football, badminton, judo, wushu, rugby, tennis, hockey, gymnastics, table tennis or lawn tennis, we have better coaching and infrastructure in all sporting disciplines, the Lt Governor said.

Expressing gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for ushering in a new sporting era across the country, the Lt Governor said, for the first time, sports and sportspersons are getting due resources, respect, and handholding. Earlier, despite having the second largest population in the world, we were not able to create the sports icons that could inspire the new generation, he added.

The Lt Governor said that the country's performance in the recently concluded Commonwealth Games is testimony to the positive change brought in by the Prime Minister. Today, our heroes are giving new energy, new inspiration to young India by their spellbinding performances in

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## 4 earthquakes jolt J&K in less than 6 hours

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Four earthquakes jolted Jammu and Kashmir in less than six hours on Tuesday, officials said.

No loss of life or damage to property was reported, they said. The epicentre of the first quake, which occurred at 2.20 am, was 61 km east of Katra area in Jammu region, they said.

The officials said the quake hit at latitude 33.07

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## 269 new COVID cases reported in J&K, 7 in Ladakh

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir registered 269 fresh COVID-19 cases on Tuesday, taking the infection tally in the union territory to 4,76,444 while no fresh death due to the Coronavirus was reported, officials said here.

As many as 51 cases were reported from Jammu division and 218 cases from Kashmir valley, they said.

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## Army foils infiltration bid in Rajouri, 2 suspected terrorists killed

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: Two suspected terrorists were killed as the Army foiled an infiltration attempt along the Line of Control (LoC) in Rajouri district, officials said on Tuesday.

The infiltration attempt in Nowshera sector was made on the intervening night of Monday and Tuesday, a defence spokesman said.

The reconnaissance of the general area of the attempted infiltration site is in progress. In reconnaissance by quadcopter, two bodies of infiltrators have been observed, the spokesman said.

He said the area is being scanned further.

According to officials, a group of suspected terrorists tried to sneak into Pukharni village of Laam in Naushera under the cover of darkness from across the border.

One of the terrorists



stepped over a landmine causing an explosion around 10 pm on Monday, they said.

Army troops, who were observing the movement of the terrorists, laid a cordon and started a search of the area on Tuesday morning.

The latest infiltration bid in Naushera sector comes close on the heels of the arrest of a Lashkar-e-Taiba

(LeT) guide, who also worked for an intelligence unit of the Pakistani army, in an injured condition on Sunday.

Tabarak Hussain (32), a resident of Sabzkot village of Kotli in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK), was arrested for the second time in the past six years while trying to infiltrate into this side from across the border.

## Chugh slams Farooq, Mehbooba over 'non-local voters' issue

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: National General Secretary of Bharatiya Janata Party Tarun Chugh slammed former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah over his local and non-local voters remark and said that no ISI or Afghan terrorist has been made a voter in the region.

"Farooq Abdullah's statement is unfortunate. He being such a senior leader refers to non-local and local voters. The Constitution of India gives the right to vote to all citizens of India," said Chugh.

He alleged that the voting



rights of people who had been staying in the valley for decades were withheld by Abdullah.

"Instead of feeling sorry for the large-scale extradition of Pandits caused by the ISI-sponsored militancy" the Abdullahs and Muftis

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## Fix target of employment generation for around 5 lakh youth: CS to Banks

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta on Tuesday set for banks a target for generation of around 5 lakh employments for the youth of J&K.

He stressed on the banks to be socially more amenable by turning their focus to priority sector lending. He asked them not to focus on subsidy only but instead be the platforms to generate the gainful and sustainable employments.

Dr Mehta was speaking in a meeting to review the progress of Self Employment Schemes here in the UT.

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary, H&UDD; Principal Secretary, SDD; Commissioner Secretary, L&E; Commissioner Secretary, Social Welfare; Secretary, Tribal Affairs; Secretary, Planning; Secretary, Tourism and YS&S; Secretary, IT; Secretary, Culture; Secretary, Agriculture; Director, Employment; representatives of different banks and many other concerned officers.

The Chief Secretary impressed on all the banks to work towards saturation of

Self Employment Schemes. He said that our motive should be to reach each out to every unemployed youth of the UT and offer them opportunities for sustainable employment under various schemes.

Dr Mehta maintained that a lot of progress has been made in the past in each aspect of employment generation and making the whole process of lending financial assistance speedy and transparent. He advised them to work towards making the benefit reach every eligible person down there.

The Chief Secretary

enquired about the proportion of artisans, weavers and other educated persons covered under different schemes meant for them. He stressed on extending loans as per actual guidelines without creating difficulties for the applicants. He also impressed on creating viable and sustainable units that are profitable for its holders.

Dr Mehta also asked the concerned departments to carry out a mega employment drive preferably in next month in each block so that awareness is created among all the prospective

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## BJP leader found hanging from tree in Kathua, SIT constituted

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A BJP leader was found hanging from a tree under mysterious circumstances in Kathua district on Tuesday, officials said.

Police have formed a Special Investigation Team (SIT) to probe the incident.

A villager saw the body of Som Raj hanging from a tree at some distance from his house in Hiranagar town in the morning and informed the police, the officials said, adding the body had blood marks.

Sources said Raj was missing for the past three days.

Police have lodged a case and initiated investigation,

the officials said.

Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP), Kathua, R C Kotwal told reporters that an SIT led by a Sub-Divisional Police Officer (SDPO) has been constituted to probe the mysterious death of the BJP leader.

He said investigation has begun under Section 174 (police to enquire and report on suicide) of Code of Criminal Procedure and the post-mortem of the body was has been conducted.

A person named by the deceased's family members in connection with the incident will be questioned, the

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## Govt issues Rs 220 cr recovery notice to Industrialist

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Government on Tuesday slapped a recovery notice of Rs 220 Crore to an industrialist of Samba. According to reliable sources, the government is likely to seal the factories and other properties of the industrialist. In order to make recoveries, the government and banks have speeded up the process to recover the loans by tightening the noose around the defaulters.

Last week, a joint team of police and revenue officials had sealed the Hotel 17 Miles and handed over its possession to the management of Punjab and Sind Bank following recovery.

The owners had failed to repay the loan and the bank had approached the court to get the hotel sealed and take its possession.

## All political parties in favour of freebies: SC

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: All political parties including BJP are in favour of freebies and due to this a judicial attempt has been made to deal with it, said the Supreme Court on Tuesday while deliberating with a PIL opposing promises of such handouts by the parties during polls.

The top court also rapped Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) and some of its leaders for making statements on the issue of freebies and the judicial intervention on the ground that welfare measures are for uplifting marginalised people and cannot be held as freebies.

On this issue, I can say all political parties are on one side including BJP. Everybody wants freebies. That is the reason we made



an attempt, a bench comprising Chief Justice N V Ramana and Justices Hima Kohli and C T Ravikumar observed during the hearing.

The intention was to initiate a wider public debate on

the issue and for this purpose, the setting up of the committee was mooted, the bench said, adding We have to see what is a freebie and what is welfare."

The bench said it has to balance the equity and it was not against any policy of the government or the scheme.

Some said, we have no right to entertain. No right to look into the issues...See, if tomorrow, somebody comes to us and says that we are not the beneficiaries of the scheme... Can we say no? We cannot deal with this. See, we have to balance it. We are not against any policy of the government. We are not

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## Policeman kills pregnant wife in Kathua

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA/JAMMU: A Special Police Officer (SPO) on Tuesday allegedly bludgeoned his pregnant wife to death in Kathua district, officials said.

Accused SPO Mohan Lal is absconding, they said, adding his house was set ablaze by some angry villagers.

Senior Superintendent of Police, Kathua, Ramesh Chander Kotwal said special teams have been formed to arrest the accused.

The incident happened at Dharalta village in the Billawar area when Lal, who is posted in District

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## TADA Court issues bailable warrant against Rubaiya Sayeed

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Special Judge TADA Court Ashwani Sharma has issued bailable warrants issued against Rubaiya Sayeed in her kidnapping case, as she failed to appear in court.

Yasin Malik was present through virtual mode and all other accused were present physically in Court, in respect of a case pertaining to kidnapping of Rubaiya Sayeed in December 1989 in Kashmir. Earlier during trial, Rubaiya Sayeed had identified Malik as one of her kidnappers. Rubaiya Sayeed was supposed to be present in the court but she did not

appear, after which bailable warrants were issued against her. The daughter of former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Late Mufti Mohammad Sayeed was again summoned to the court and the next date of hearing has been fixed as September 21.

CBI counsel Monika Kohli said that accused Yasin Malik has been clearly told that he can't be allowed a physical appearance. During the course of hearing Yasin Malik said that he should be given physical hearing so that he can cross examine. The court said that it is

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## Benami Act 2016 does not have retrospective effect, SC

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court Tuesday held that Benami Transactions (Prohibition) Amendment Act, 2016 does not have retrospective application and the authorities cannot initiate or continue criminal prosecution or confiscation proceedings for transactions entered into prior to the coming into force of the legislation.

The apex court also said section 3(2) and section 5 of the Benami Transactions (Prohibition) Act, 1988 are vague and arbitrary. The top court said the

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## 3 J&K health institutions get National Certification

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) has accorded National Certification under National Quality Assurance Standards (NQAS) Programme to PHC Kakapora (Pulwama) and UPHC Shastri Nagar (Jammu), and National certification under LaQshya to CHC Pattan (Baramulla) in recognition of the high standards of quality and ensuring Respectful Maternity Care in the concerned hospitals.

The certified facilities were assessed by a team of highly qualified and empanelled assessors from the Union Ministry of Health & Family Welfare in the month of June and July, 2022 and have

been rated as Quality Certified under NQAS and LaQshya programs of National Health Mission as communicated by Additional Secretary & Mission Director, NHM, MoH&FW GoI, in a letter addressed to the UT Government. The National Certification will be valid for a period of three years subject to annual verification of the scores by the State Quality Assurance Committee.

PHC Kakapora and UPHC Shastri Nagar receive an additional annual grant of Rs.3.00 lakhs each as part of NQAS certification for next three years while as CHC Pattan shall receive an additional annual grant of Rs. 4.00 lakh as part of

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**WEATHER**

Temperature (Jammu)  
Max: 36.4°C Min: 26.2°C

Humidity  
Max: 69 Min: 54

Temperature (Srinagar)  
Max: 30.4°C Min: 19.5°C

Humidity  
Max: 73 Min: 63

Sunset : 19:07 Hours  
Sunrise : 06:02 Hours