

03 Lawyers take out candle procession to garner support

04 Hundreds of Nag Devta devotees attend three-day Kailash Yatra at Bhadarwah

10 Umran Malik in India-A squad

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Peoples' participation imperative for robust governance: Sinha



LG Manoj Sinha interacting with randomly selected applicants from across UT during LG's Mulaqaat programme.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday said that people's participation is vital, inseparable part of a seamless and robust governance system, besides removing social ills from the society.

The Lt Governor was interacting with the applicants of JK-IGRAMS during the "LG's Mulaqaat- Live Public Grievance Hearing" at the Civil Secretariat, where he called upon the people to work hand in hand with administration for a decisive war against drug abuse in J&K.

The Lt Governor observed that a sizeable percentage of complaints from pub-

lic are being resolved promptly through LG's Mulaqaat.

"It shows the trust and confidence of public and integrity, transparency and fairness of the officers responsible for addressing the complaints", he added.

The Lt Governor directed the Deputy Commissioners and Superintendents of Police to intensify their efforts against drug peddlers with the help of local residents. He further asked the Deputy Commissioners to maintain digital records of their meetings with public and submit the action taken report on the grievances received periodically.

"Officers at the helm should monitor the working of their subordinates and

officials working at the ground level ensuring effective public delivery system while focusing on complete saturation of flagship schemes' benefits, the Lt Governor further said.

During the interaction with randomly selected applicants from across the UT, it was observed that most of their grievances filed on JK-IGRAMS portal had already been resolved, for which the respective applicants expressed their gratitude towards the Lt Governor.

The Lt Governor sought the details of the grievances from the concerned Deputy Commissioners, besides specific timelines for the redressal of the same. He also directed the concerned Secretaries to proactively monitor and speed up the resolution of grievances as per the laid rules and provisions.

The grievance of one Saqib Manzoor from Pulwama was addressed on the spot as the Lt Governor assured him of the installation of synthetic turf volleyball court at High School, Tahab.

On the grievance of Mohd Yaseen from Reasi regarding laying of new water pipelines in his area, the Lt Governor said the pipelines would be laid under JJM soon. Shahid Ahmed from Poonch was informed that his grievance regarding the strengthen

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Pak's sinister attempt to disturb peace in Jammu foiled: Army

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI/JAMMU: Army on Wednesday said a "sinister attempt" by Pakistan to disturb peace in Jammu region was scuttled with successful elimination within 48 hours of two infiltration attempts by terrorists along the Line of Control (LoC) in Naushera sector of Rajouri district.

The back-to-back infiltration bids on August 21 and 22 in Jhangar and Lam areas, resulted in the killing of two terrorists and arrest of a notorious terrorist guide who was assigned the task by a senior officer of Pakistan's intelligence agency to lead a group into this side to carry-out an attack on an army post, Army's 80 Infantry Brigade Commander, Brigadier Kapil Rana said.

It is the direct pointer towards our adversary across our western borders and sinister attempt to disrupt peace in Rajouri and Jammu region, he said.



Army's 80 Infantry Brigade Commander, Brigadier Kapil Rana briefing media on Wednesday.

Army cautions against sale of outfits resembling combat uniforms to public in J&K

JAMMU: In the interest of national security, the army on Wednesday cautioned against unauthorised sale of outfits resembling its combat uniforms to the public, an official said.

The Northern Army Command, along with the police, have already carried out a chain of awareness campaigns in Udhampur city in order to dissuade sellers from trading unauthorised uniforms, he said.

The measure has been initiated as easy access to the Indian Army uniforms in open markets causes a potential threat to the security of military establishments and their personnel, public relations officer for the Northern Command said.

"Now, the Indian Army has chalked out plans to take tough action against the dealers who are

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CS launches e-Market for sale of mining material

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary Dr Arun Kumar Mehta on Wednesday launched here the web portal (e-Market) for sale of mining material in the UT of J&K.

On the occasion the Chief Secretary enjoined upon the officers of the Geology & Mining Department to ensure that the construction material is readily available to the customers on the already approved rates. He asked the Department to make this process hassle free so that the customers finds it easy and reliable to use.

Dr Mehta maintained that the step is highly appreciable

for it would help in checking the illegal mining besides allowing the customers to find material on competitive rates with access to vast market from the comforts of their homes. He asked the Department to make the portal the best way to fetch the mined material for different developmental purposes.

The Chief Secretary also directed the Deputy Commissioners to monitor the process and see that there is no overcharging or scarcity of such materials in the market. He asked them to submit daily reports in this regard. He also

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Temporary Govt servant has no right to hold post: HC

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court held that a temporary Govt servant has no right to hold the post and his or her services are liable to be terminated by giving him one month's notice without assigning any reason either under terms of the contract providing for such termination or under the relevant statutory rules regulating terms and conditions of temporary Govt. servants. This significant judgment has been passed by Justice Sindhu Sharma in a petition filed by one Anit Sharma, seeking quashment of order No. CMO/P/ NHM/ACT/1

1163-68 dated 06.02.2021 wherein engagement for post of X-ray Technician in Community Health Centre Mandi was cancelled. A direction was also sought to the respondents to allow petitioner to continue his duties as X-ray Technician in CHC Mandi.

During the course of hearing, counsel for petitioner submitted that the petitioner had participated in selection process, fulfilled all the conditions as raised by the respondents and now has been terminated before the expiry of the period of contract on the grounds that recruitment was against norms of NHM.

Justice Sindhu Sharma after hearing both sides observed that the fact of the matter is that there was no post of X-ray Technician available at CHC Mandi, as such, the entire process of selection was against norms of NHM. The petitioner though was thus appointed on a post against the norms of NHM, though, regular selection was held. The term of contract specifically contained that the services of the petitioner are terminable on either side by prior notice of one month, even if the notice was given then also, the respondents were well within their rights to terminate services and there would

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NC gives clear indication of contesting all 90 Assembly seats

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The National Conference on Wednesday gave a clear indication that it will contest all the 90 seats in the Jammu and Kashmir assembly on its own and not in alliance with other members of the five-party PAGD alliance.

In a major political development ahead of the elections expected to be held after November this year, the Kashmir provincial committee of the party unanimously passed a resolution resolving that the National Conference (NC) "should prepare and fight all the 90 seats".

Party vice president Omar

Abdullah, General Secretary Ali Mohammad Sagar and virtually the entire leadership from the Kashmir region attended the meeting at the NC headquarters after which the resolution was passed.

Besides the NC, the Peoples' Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD), which was formed on August 4, 2019, comprises the PDP, CPM, Awami National Conference and CPI. During the 2020 District Development Council elections, the alliance contested and won 110 seats out of 280 with the NC winning

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259 new COVID cases reported in J&K

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir registered 259 fresh COVID cases on Wednesday, taking the infection tally in the union territory to 4,76,703 while no fresh death due to the Coronavirus was reported, officials said here.

Twenty one cases were reported from Jammu division and 238 cases were reported from Kashmir valley, the officials said here.

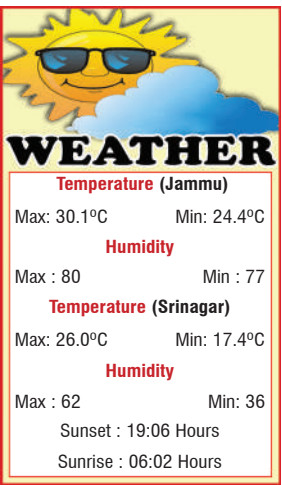
The death toll due to the virus was 4779 as no fresh death was reported from the union territory, the officials said.

There are 2,169 active cases of the disease in the union territory, while the number of recoveries has reached 4,69,755, the officials said.

The officials said there were 51 confirmed cases of mucormycosis (black fungus).

Meanwhile, Ladakh has reported three new cases

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WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)

Max: 30.1°C Min: 24.4°C

Humidity

Max: 80 Min: 77

Temperature (Srinagar)

Max: 26.0°C Min: 17.4°C

Humidity

Max: 62 Min: 36

Sunset : 19:06 Hours

Sunrise : 06:02 Hours

Babar Qadri Murder case: Police raid residences of 3 lawyers in Srinagar

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Police on Wednesday carried out raids at the residences of three lawyers, including former J&K High Court Bar Association President Mian Abdul Qayoom, and seized digital devices, bank statements and other documents as part of the probe into the killing of an advocate two years ago.

"Srinagar police conducting searches at residence of Adv Mian Qayoom, Adv Manzoor Dar and Adv Muzzaffar Mohd in connection with further #investigation of #murder of Adv Babar



Qadri, FIR No 62/2020 of PS Lal Bazar," Additional Director General of Police (ADGP), Kashmir Zone, Vijay Kumar said in a tweet. A police spokesman said all

legal formalities were followed during the searches at four locations -- two in Barzulla, one each in Brein-Nishat and Maisuma

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Bodies of two terrorists killed along LoC in Rajouri recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Army on Wednesday recovered the bodies of two terrorists who were killed along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district, officials said.

The two terrorists were killed on the intervening night of Monday and Tuesday when Army personnel foiled their bid to infiltrate into this side of the LoC in the Nowshera sector.

The bodies of two terrorists were recovered during a search operation, an army officer said. One AK rifle, ammunition and

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Ban imposed on unauthorised assembly on all four Tawi bridges in Jammu

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Taking serious note of frequent blocking of a vital bridge by protesters in support of their demands, authorities in Jammu on Wednesday imposed a ban on assembly of unauthorized gathering on all the four bridges over river Tawi.

District Magistrate, Jammu, Avny Lavasa said the imposition of restrictions under prohibitory orders shall be effective for a period of two months with immediate effect.

The general public or any member thereof is completely prohibited from holding ral-

lies, protests or dharnas and making speeches in and around all the four Tawi Bridges, Lavasa said in her order.

However, she said the order will not apply to police or paramilitary or armed forces of the Union or any other Government servant on official duties and processions or rallies for which prior permission in writing by the District Magistrate or Additional Magistrate or Sub-Divisional Magistrate has been granted.

Citing a 2020 ruling of Supreme Court that the occupation of public ways for

protests is not acceptable and the administration should take action to keep such areas clear of encroachments or obstructions, Lavasa said allowing unruly and illegal gatherings on bridges and roads are a serious threat to peace, order and harmony in the district.

She said it has been observed that multiple organisations or groups or individuals try to hold protests, rallies and dharnas at Tawi bridges, thereby causing obstruction and grave inconvenience to the general public as the

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Unauthorised constructions: Not a single brick can be laid without police, authorities collusion: SC

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Not a single brick can be laid without collusion of local police and the

municipal authorities, the Supreme Court Wednesday said while voicing concern over unauthorised constructions in the national capital.

The top court said there should be judicial scrutiny of these matters and said it would constitute a judicial committee of two retired judges to deal with the decisions of the monitoring committee, formed to check illegal constructions.

"Unauthorised construc-

tions go in a collaborative exercise between the authorities and infringer, escalating the cost for the person who has made it. Rampant construction is going on and no brick can be laid without local police authorities and the municipal authorities colluding.

"Try to lay brick and they will come to your place. Whoever is in charge of that area, they have introduced a system of change. Every few months they change depending on the lucrative posting," a bench of Justices S K

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