

03 BJP launches 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign from PVC Bana Singh's home

03 DIPR- J joins Green J&K Campaign; conducts plantation drive

09 Woman smothered to death by in-laws in Bemina; husband among 5 arrested

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Bitcoin channel used to push money into J&K to fund terror activities: SIA

Raids conducted at multiple places in UT

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: State Investigation Agency (SIA) of Jammu and Kashmir Police on Wednesday conducted raids at multiple locations in the Union Territory as part of investigations into the use of Bitcoin channel for funding terror activities, police said.

They said a Pakistani mastermind has been pumping slush money to his agents in J&K to fuel mass violence and terrorist activities.

"The SIA today conducted searches at multiple locations spread across J-K. House premises of suspects in Mendhar, Poonch, Baramulla, Kupwara and Handwara were searched in connection with investigation of case FIR No.12/22 U/S 18, 38, 39 UA(P)Act, 120-B, 121,121-A IPC registered in Counter Intelligence Police Station in Srinagar," a police spokesman said.



He said the case pertains to terror financing via Bitcoin trade.

"Details that are being investigated into at the initial stage include a mastermind in Pakistan who with active support of Pakistani intelligence agencies and in connivance with proscribed terrorist organisation(s) based in Pakistan has been pumping slush money to his agents in J-K for further distribution among terrorist organi-

sation(s), secessionist(s) for fueling mass violence and terrorist activities," the spokesman said.

He said the Pakistani mastermind has been identified. However, his particulars are being kept confidential to prevent alerting other agents connected to him, he added.

The searches were carried out in the houses of Zahida Bano, Ghulam Mujataba Deedad, Tanjeeda Begum (all residents of Kupwara

district), Yasir Ahmad Mir, Mohammad Sayed Masoodi (both residents of Baramulla), Farooq Ahmad and Imran Chowdhary (residents of Poonch).

"Preliminary investigation revealed that the dirty money originating from Pakistan has reached these persons. The transfer of money has been layered to prevent backward tracing of its origin, the investigation has revealed. While several accounts-in-the-middle that have been used to layer the money are outside J-K, the effective whitewashing of the Pakistani money has taken place through exploitation of loopholes in international Bitcoin trade," the spokesman added.

He said during searches conducted on Wednesday, incriminating material believed to be hidden in digital devices, SIM

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Terrorists attack police party in Srinagar

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Terrorists on Wednesday attacked a police party in Allochibagh area of the city, but fled in the face of effective retaliation, police said.

"In Allochibagh bund area of Srinagar, terrorists fired upon a vehicle bound small police party. This was effectively retaliated by the police party. Terrorists took advantage of darkness and ran away towards built up

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J&K records 739 new COVID cases, Ladakh 16

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir recorded 739 fresh COVID-19 cases on Wednesday, raising the tally to 4,66,643, officials said.

While 196 cases were reported from the Jammu division, 543 cases were reported from the Kashmir valley, they said.

The death toll due to coronavirus was 4,773. No fresh death was reported from the union territory in the past

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Lohia is new Prisons Dept chief; Dass posted as Com Civil-Military Liaison

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: IPS officer H K Lohia was appointed as the new DGP of the Prisons Department on Wednesday as the Jammu and Kashmir administration ordered transfers and postings of five senior officers.

B Srinivas, who was posted as DGP Prisons in May last year and was also holding additional charge of Director, Fire & Emergency Services in the Union Territory, is transferred and posted as Commandant General, Home Guard/Civil Defence and State Disaster Response Force, vice Lohia.

"The post of Commandant

General, Home Guard, Civil Defence and SDRF J&K, is declared to be equivalent in rank and status to that of DGP, till held by the officer (Srinivas)", the home department said in an order.

Garib Dass, Inspector General of Police (Headquarters), upon his promotion to the grade of Additional Director General of Police (ADGP), is transferred and posted as Commissioner, Civil-Military Liaison, home department, against an available vacancy.

According to the order, Dass shall be headquartered at Police Headquarters,

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Aasiya Andrabi moves Delhi HC against attachment of property by NIA

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Kashmiri separatist Aasiya Andrabi on Wednesday approached the Delhi High Court against the attachment of property in Srinagar by the National Investigation Agency (NIA).

A bench of Justices Mukta Gupta and Anish Dayal sought the NIA's stand on the petition which challenges the trial court's May 2 order refusing to interfere with the attachment and listed

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Srinagar records highest rainfall in June-July in 122 years

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Srinagar recorded the highest rainfall for the months of June and July in 122 years with the city receiving 107 per cent more precipitation than average, a private weather forecaster said on Wednesday. "It was

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WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)

Max: 35.2°C Min: 26.0°C

Humidity

Max : 74 Min : 59

Temperature (Srinagar)

Max: 29.4°C Min: 17.6°C

Humidity

Max : 77 Min: 60

Sunset : 19:28 Hours

Sunrise : 05:48 Hours

Jammu lawyers hold bike rally from High Court to Raj Bhawan

Lawyers demand construction of multi-storey building within court premises

Jammu Bar to suspend court work on August 4, 5

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Continuing it's ongoing protest, the J&K High Court Bar Association Jammu under the leadership of President Senior Advocate M.K Bhardwaj, on Wednesday again held a bike rally from High Court to Raj Bhawan and decided to suspended court work on August 4 and 5.

The members holding National Flags in huge number reached the near Raj Bhawan amidst raising slo-



Jammu lawyers taking out bike rally towards Raj Bhawan on Wednesday.

gans in favour of their demands and sat on Dharna. The lawyers' are protesting

for its long pending demand of construction of multi storey building for housing

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1.06 Cr tourists visited J&K from Jan to Jul 3 this year

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: An estimated 1.06 crore tourists have visited Jammu and Kashmir from January to July 3 this year, Union Minister of State for Home Nityanand Rai said in the Rajya Sabha on Wednesday.

Responding to questions in the House, the minister also said nearly 30,000 people have been recruited in the public sector in Jammu and Kashmir since 2019.

"During the current calendar year i.e. from January 2022 till July 3, 2022, the tourist footfall in UT of Jammu and Kashmir



increased significantly and estimated to be around 1,06,24,000," he said replying to a written question.

Rai did not specify whether

the number of tourists includes pilgrims visiting Vaishno Devi temple and Amarnath Cave.

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226 pilgrims leave for Amarnath cave shrine from Jammu

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A batch of 226 pilgrims left the Bhagwati Nagar base camp here on Wednesday to pay obeisance at the 3,880-metre-high cave shrine of Amarnath in south Kashmir Himalayas, officials said.

The 43-day yatra commenced on June 30 from the twin base camps -- traditional 48-km Nunwan-Pahalgam in south Kashmir's Anantnag and 14-km shorter Baltal in central Kashmir's Ganderbal district.

The 34th batch left in a convoy of nine vehicles

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Mehbooba's new Twitter display pic shows tricolour, old J&K flag

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: PDP president Mehbooba Mufti Wednesday put a new Twitter display picture showing her late father Mufti Mohammad Sayeed and Prime Minister Narendra Modi with the national flag and the now-derecognised flag of Jammu and Kashmir.

In his Mann Ki Baat radio broadcast this Sunday, PM Modi had said the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' is turning into a mass movement and urged people to put 'tiranga' as the profile picture of their social media accounts between August 2 and 15.

Putting the new display

picture, Mehbooba said the flag of Jammu and Kashmir might have been "snatched", but it cannot be erased from the collective conscience of the people.

The photograph was taken at a rally addressed by the prime minister during his Kashmir visit in November 2015 when Mufti Sayeed was chief minister of the erstwhile state.

Mehbooba's previous profile picture was her own photo with the party's logo.

"Changed my dp since a flag is a matter of joy & pride. For us our state flag was irreversibly linked to

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Martyr Sukhjinder Singh

down his life in (the) line of duty in Uttarakhand. My thoughts are with the bereaved family in this hour of grief. His selfless

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IIFL Foundation, Indian Army, REACHA launch retail skill development programme in J&K

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
MUMBAI: IIFL Foundation on Wednesday said it has launched a retail skill development programme in partnership with the Indian Army and non-government organisation REACHA to train 180 people in Kupwara district of Jammu and Kashmir.

The assessment and certification for the 12-month program would be by the Retailers Association's Skill Council of India (RASCi) under the 'Skill India' initiative of the Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Ministry, IIFL Foundation

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First Osama, now Zawahri: US shows the way again



JAMMU: Salute to America; it has proved its soul is alive. Incumbents might come and go but the institutions remain intact. The US has kept its word of avenging 9/11-the death trail of the morning of 11 September 2001, when 19 terrorists from the Islamist extreme group al Qaeda hijacked four commercial aircraft and crashed two of them into the North and South Towers of the World Trade Center complex in New York City. A third plane crashed into the Pentagon in Arlington, Virginia. After learning about the other attacks, passengers on the fourth hijacked plane, Flight 93, fought back, and the plane crashed into an empty field in western Pennsylvania about 20 minutes by air from Washington, D.C. The Twin Towers ultimately collapsed and nearly 3,000 people were killed from 93 different countries.

The masterminds of the 9/11 are now eliminated. Soon after killing of Osama bin Laden in his Abbottabad rat-hole on May 2, 2011, the then US Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton, had left no room for any ambiguity by saying: "The United States has made it clear from the very moment we were attacked

(9/11) that we would go after those who had attacked us. Bin Laden was our primary target. The President made a gutsy decision. We were very pleased that the operation succeeded. And we've made it clear to people around the world that if we locate someone who has been part of the Al Qaeda leadership, then you get him or we will get him."

And again after over 11 years, the US President Joe Biden did it again and announced the killing of the al-Qaeda chief Ayman al-Zawahiri in an American drone attack on his balcony in downtown Kabul on August 2, 2022, saying "We made it clear again tonight that no matter how long it takes, no matter where you hide if you are a threat to our people the United States will find you and take you out."

This is how nations tackle the situations. Like the US, India too has the same mission of destination Pakistan and the mission end terrorism. The US kept track of Zawahiri from his Pakistan hideout to Kabul and ultimately nailed him. But the Indian nation, which has suffered thousand times during the past 75 years in general and over 32 years in particular from the Pak mission of bleeding India by thousand cuts, has failed in mustering the guts to find and fix terrorists, who are roaming freely in the rogue neighbourhood.

For most of the time during the 24 years rule of the various governments, mostly the Congress led UPA, till 2014, India did only speaking and nothing else. It talked about peace and dialogue, no matter if the fountain head of terrorism was found on that soil. It handed over a list of its 50 wanted fugitives, sheltering in Pakistan. But, just a day or so later, the list brought nothing but shame for the nation. It was erroneous. Pakistan did not react, something unusual, something tricky. Maybe they were waiting for their turn to snub New Delhi by saying 'shut up'. Islamabad knows well the Indians and the Indian psyche. Despite India talking peace, Pakistan continues to indulge in providing moral and material support to terrorists operating from Pak-occupied-Kashmir. What should have been our response?

Prime Minister Narendra Modi had set the blueprint for India's response to the scourge of terror unleashed by Pakistan by undertaking a surgical strike deep into PoK on September 29, 2016 but what happened. The Congress together with all the pseudo seculars and left lobby ganged up and raised fingers on the armed forces and sought proof. Did Americans ever seek proof? Did the US opposition rap their own government for taking on terrorists?

On the contrary, one of the Congress leaders,

Sanjay Nirupam, at the behest of the High Command, had described the surgical strikes as 'fake'. Another senior Congress leader and former Chief Minister Digvijay Singh had called Osama bin Laden as Osamaji and pointed fingers on Narendra Modi government's action against terror monsters. Senior Congress leaders went all out in solidarity with terrorists involved in infamous Batala House, describing the encounter as fake. They joined those chanting ``Afzal Hum Sharmanda Hai Tere Qatil Zinda Hai". Any resolute action by the valiant security forces sees the opposition taking rallies and sitting on Dharna at Jantar Mantar. The Congress seion Rahul Gandhi is on record having embarrassed the Indian government, which came readily as a breather for Pakistan to exploit his comments on the international forum.

The tantrums of the united opposition notwithstanding, time has come for Prime Minister Modi to emulate the US and act rather than beating the bushes. There are not only 50, as per the list provided to Pakistan decades ago; there are many within and in the backyards, across Pakistan, as also in the various countries around the world. They are just a small distance away. They are to be found and fixed. There is no scope for 'if' and 'but'.