Air surcharge 50 paisa for Leh

J&K's Teacher to attend I-Day

Hardcore criminal 'Mansha' involved in U 💪 attack on police, heroin supplying arrested

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

Dr Jitendra addresses G20 Ministerial Meet, reiterates India's crusade against corruption

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

Massive search operation launched in Poonch

ahead of I-Day

MENDHAR: Security forces on Saturday launched a

search operation in over a dozen villages near the Line

of Control in Poonch district,

The joint operation by the

Army and police in the

Gursai area of Mendhar sub-

division is being carried out

as part of stepped-up securi-

ty in the border villages

ACB arrests Patwari for

accepting bribe of Rs 5,000

BARAMULLA: ACB on

Tehsil Bommai, District

Baramulla for demanding

and accepting bribe of Rs

5000 from complainant for

preparation and issuance of

A complaint was received

by the Anti Corruption

STATE TIMES NEWS

Saturday

arrested

Patwari, Halqa

revenue extract.

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

trapped and

Tariq Ahmad,

Zalora,

ahead of Independence

officials said.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

Chhari Mubarak rituals to be held at Shankaracharya Temple from Aug 16

Celebrations 2023 as special invitee

915 pilgrims leave Jammu for Amarnath Cave Shrine

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR/JAMMU: The Chhari Mubarak the holy mace of Lord Shiva will be taken to the historic Shankaracharya atop a hillock here on August 16 for rituals connected with ongoing Amaranth Yatra.

As there are two Shravan' months this year, an astronomical event taking place after 19 years, Amaranth Yatra has a greater significance, custodian of the holy mace Mahant Deependra Giri told PTI in an interview

Giri also provided details about the programme of Chhari Mubarak.

'Bhoomi-Pujan' 'Navgrah Pujan' and 'Dhawajarohan' rituals connected to the beginning of the Chhari Mubarak were performed at Pahalgam, on the occasion of Ashad Purnima' on July 3,

The holy mace will now be

and Ladakh were the

Delivering the inaugural

address, Justice N. Kotiswar

Singh stated that under the

Motor Vehicles Amendment

Act and MV Amendment

Rules much more responsi-

bility has been cast upon the

police as well as insurance

companies. He remarked

that in a collaborative

effort/exercise, these stake-

holders have to ensure that a

person who suffers loss in

terms of injury to person,

property or life gets the ben-

efit under the Act. He

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

emphasised the necessity

resource persons.

to the historic Shankaracharva Temple here on August 16, he said. Rituals will be performed at

the revered temple atop Zabarwan hills in Dalgate area of the city. Prayers will then be held at the Sharika Bhawani Temple on the slopes of Hari Parbat in the interiors of the city here, a day later, Giri said.

The rituals for Chhari Sthapana' will be performed at Shri Amareshwar Temple Dashnami Akhara on August

After performing 'Chhari Pujan' at Dashnami Akhara, Srinagar on the occasion of Nag Panchami' on August 21, Giri will carry the holy mace to the Amarnath cave shrine to perform pujan' and have darshan' early morning on Shravan Purnima' on August 31.

The holy mace yatra will have night halts at Pahalgam on August 26 and August 27, at Chandanwari on August 28, at Sheshnag on August 29 and at Panchtarni

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

J&K first in country to integrate auto-appeal feature to service platform: LG Launches Digi-Dost, CSC- Aadhaar Seva Kendras at Block level; Multilingual

Chatbot, AI- based Facial Recognition attendance application



Manoj Sinha launching various digital initiatives for improved citizen-centric services at Srinagar on Saturday.

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Saturday said that Jammu and Kashmir is the first in the country to integrate auto-appeal feature to the service platform, adding that the on-boarding of 300 public services on this system will ensure quality and timely disposal of services.

"Digital J&K has given many unique

and incredible digital-first experiences and in future, the outcome of combined team efforts of UT would be cited as the best and leading administrative reforms," the Lt Governor said in his address during the 'Yug Parivartan, Badalta Jammu Kashmir' programme

Sinha dedicated various digital initiatives to the people of J&K on the occa-

He appreciated the IT Department and other stakeholder agencies for their endeavours to ensure seamless access to government services.

The Lieutenant Governor said the new digital initiatives launched today such as Digi-Dost (Doorstep delivery of services), CSC-Aadhaar Seva Kendras at Block Level, on-boarding of 300 services on auto appeal system and Digi Sahayak, a multilingual chatbot will provide improved citizen-centric services to the people.

He highlighted the key initiatives of UT administration to make the governance system more transparent, accountable and responsive.

This feature will auto escalate the appeals in case the services are not provided to the applicant within time limit set under Public Services Guarantee Act and it will establish the most transparent public services delivery system, he

The Lt Governor underlined the need to address the local needs by integrating digital based solutions. "We recognize

Bureau against

JPDCL seeks public support in smooth installation of smart meters across Jammu

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Amid ongoing protests by consumers over the installation of smart meters, Jammu Power Distribution Corporation Ltd (JPDCL) on Saturday dispelled fears of overcharging by the power supplier and sought the cooperation of the people in completing the project.

Chief (Distribution), $_{
m JPDCL}$ Sandeep Seth dismissed overcharging through smart meters as propaganda to mislead the public.

"People have a lot of doubts and reservations over the installation of smart meters

Development of Bhadarwah will be my top

which needs to be dispelled. The smart meters are for the benefit of the public as these are highly accurate and require no human intervention (for its reading and billing)," Seth told reporters

Jammu has been witness-

ing protests by locals almost on a daily basis in different localities against the installation of smart meters. Almost all opposition parties, including Congress, National Conference, Democratic Azad Party (DPAP),

National Panthers Party (NPP) and Aam

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

PM accuses TMC of letting loose reign of terror West Bengal chief minister



KOLKATA/KOLAGHAT Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday lashed out at the opposition and more specifically at TMC's record of violent local body polls, prompting an equally fiery response from

Court awards life imprisonment for murder

STATE TIMES NEWS Additional

Sessions Judge Jammu Deepak Sethi on Saturday awarded life-imprisonment to Chandar Bhanu Sharma for abducting and killing Ashok Kumar Kichloo, who was Assistant Director, Planning and Statistics Department.

According to Police, the complainant namely Nirmala Kichloo, wife of Ashok Kumar Kichloo reported on November 30. 2009 that her husband, abducted by one Chandar Bhanu Sharma, is missing. According to her apprehensions, he has been killed.

On the basis of complaint, a case was registered under section 364 CrPC. During investigations, police recovered the body of Ashok Kichloo from Kumar Muralian.

After completing legal formalities, the police handed over the body to his family for last rites. And, the police arrested Chander Bhanu Sharma, son of Manohar Lal Sharma, resident of

CONTD ON PAGE 9



Sunrise: 05:45 Hours

Mamata Banerjee castigating the ruling party for lack of action on Manipur.

Speaking virtually at a function organised by his party, at Kolaghat, a fishing town 70 km from Kolkata, Modi accused opposition parties of "running away" from the Lok Sabha during a debate on the no-confidence motion and said his government has countered the "negativity being spread" by them across the country.

attacked the TMC which worsted his party in panchayat polls held

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Chief Justice, High Court of J&K & Ladakh and Patron-in-Chief J&K Judicial Academy (JKJA), Justice N. Kotiswar Singh on Saturday inaugurated one-day sensitization programme on "Provisions of Chapter XI and XII of the Motor Vehicles Amendment Act and Motor Vehicle Amendment Rules, 2022".

The programme was organ-The Prime Minister also ised by JKJA for the

Presiding Officers of the MACT, officers of insurance companies and Police depart-

Mitti ko Naman..Veeron Ka Vandan

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav: DIPR lights lamps at Balidan Stambh

Joint Director Information, Atul Gupta along with Dy Dir Information (PR), Dr Vikas

Sharma and others paying homage to the martyrs at Balidan Stambh on Saturday.

Gupta along with Deputy

Director Information (PR),

Dr Vikas Sharma and Field

Publicity Officer, Mukesh

Sharma lighted lamps at



CJ inaugurates JKJA's sensitization programme on

Chief Justice, High Court of J&K & Ladakh, Justice N. Kotiswar Singh speaking during a programme at Srinagar.

Chairperson, Governing Committee, JKJA, Justice Sanjeev Kumar; Member, Governing Committee JKJA, Justice Rahul Bharti; Director, Deputy Prosecution, Nadia Nisar and Divisional Manager,

United India Insurance Company were also present on the occasion.

Justice Rahul Bharti, Judge High Court of J&K and Ladakh and Justice Rashid Ali Dar, former Judge High Court of J&K

Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar to be Pakistan's caretaker PM

AGENCY

ISLAMABAD: Senator Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar was on Saturday picked as Pakistan's caretaker Prime Minister to govern the cashstrapped country and oversee general elections later this year.

Outgoing Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and the Leader of Opposition Raja Riaz finalised his name after two rounds of deliberations over the matter

Kakar, a lawmaker belonging to Balochistan Awami Party (BAP), will lead a caretaker government until a new election later this

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

BHADARWAH: Democratic Progressive Azad Party Chairman Ghulam Nabi Azad lashed out at the previous regimes for anti people policies and said that his all pro people and developmental initiatives have been reversed by the present dispensation. He said the tough approach has hurt the people economically and unemploy-

ment level rose to unprece-

STATE TIMES NEWS

dented level during last several years. He said when he started developmental works in triple



DPAP Chairman Ghulam Nabi Azad addressing a public gathering at Bhadarwah on Saturday.

shifts, it provided job opportunities to all those who were

earn their livelihood. " There

migrating to other states to ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

YOU ARE A TRUE LEADE

Eastern Ladakh row: India to press for early disengagement in remaining friction points at fresh military talks with China

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: India is set to press for early disengagement of troops from the remaining friction points in eastern Ladakh at a fresh round of high-level military talks with China on August 14, people familiar with the matter said on Saturday.

The 19th round of Corps Commander level dialogue is taking place around four months after the last edition of the military talks were held to ease tensions in the region.

The Indian delegation at the talks are going to seek completion of the disengagement process in the remaining friction points at the earliest, said one of the persons

The Indian and Chinese troops are locked in an over

three-year standoff in certain friction points in eastern Ladakh even as the two sides completed disengagement from several areas following extensive diplomatic and military talks. In the 18th round of the

military dialogue that was held on April 23, the Indian side strongly pressed for resolving the lingering issues at Depsang and Demchok.

The fresh round of talks is set to take place at Chushul-Moldo border meeting point on the Indian side, the sources said.

The Indian delegation at the dialogue is likely to be headed by Lt Gen Rashim Bali, the Commander of the Corps. The Chinese team is

Information, Jammu Atul Stambh ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9 Installments worth Rs 150 Cr released to PMAY-G beneficiaries

Saturday paying homage to

the Nation's martyrs. The

divas were lit under Mitti ko

Naman Veeron ka Vandan,

Committed to provide roof to poor families, ensure their livelihood: Sinha **STATE TIMES NEWS**

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Under Azadi Ka

Amrit Mahotsav and the

Meri Maati Mera Desh cam-

Director

Joint

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Saturday reiterated the commitment of the government to empower the last person in the queue and to make every village self-sufficient to achieve the goal of Aatma-Nirbhar Jammu and Kashmir.

"We are determined to provide a roof over the head of poor families and saturate benefits provided in convergence with schemes for better and decent living.", the Lieutenant Governor said while addressing the valedictory session of Samagra Awaas-Convergence under Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G) here.

At the event, the Lt Governor released the installments worth Rs 150 crore to the PMAY-Gramin ben-

The Lt Governor shared the reforms introduced by the UT Administration to improve the quali-



LG Manoj Sinha speaking at the valedictory session of Samagra Awaas-Convergence under PMAY-Gramin at Srinagar.

ty of life of the people of J&K. Under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, we are dedicated to inclusive development and reaching the last mile, the Lt Governor said.

marginalized section of society from

clutches of under-development and to

ensure that every family enjoys bene-

land to landless, we have made a commitment to ensure livelihood and build a brighter future for them," he Highlighting the progress regis-"My prime objective is to liberate

tered under Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana, the Lt Governor said, all 3.39 lakh eligible houses out of 3.42 lakh sanctioned to J&K under PMAY-G

fits of peace and prosperity. With

were approved. Of these 1.74 lakh houses were handed over to the beneficiaries. The construction work of the remaining houses will be completed by this financial year, he added. The Lt Governor congratulated the

PRI members, all stakeholder departments and the people of Kathua, Budgam, Kulgam and Ramban districts for achieving ODF plus and 100% model district status. Due to the collective efforts of all, the UT of J&K has emerged as top performer in Model Village Coverage, he added.

He also called upon the people of the UT and sought their active participation in Independence Day

The Lt Governor felicitated the best performing blocks under PMAY-G and the Districts with maximum convergence. He also handed over installment cheques to beneficiaries under PMAY-G. Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary; ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

cited above.

Leh-headquartered expected to be led by

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9