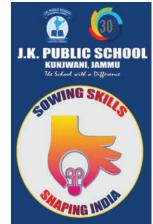


Vol. 28 Issue 235 • Jammu • Saturday • August 26, 2023 • Pages 12 • ₹ 2.50



4 vehicles seized, 4 arrested for illegal **U** extraction & transportation of minerals India has arrived, auspicious times happening: Dr Jitendra

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

Transporters warn to go on indefinite strike from August 31

Air surcharge 50 paisa for Leh

India showed its capability to world by hoisting Tricolour on Moon: Modi to diaspora

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



PM Narendra Modi at the Indian Community event at Athens, in Greece on Friday.

AGENCY

ATHENS: Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Friday that India has shown its capability to the world by unfurling the tricolour on the Moon, and asserted that its science and technology and

innovation are creating a wave globally.

Addressing the Indian diaspora in the capital of Greece, he also cited several development feats achieved by his government in the last nine never before has so much investment been made in infrastructure development.

Optical fibre cable more than 25 lakh km in length has been laid in India since 2014 which, he noted, is more than six times the distance between the Earth and the Moon. India has taken indigenous 5G technology to around 700 districts in record time, he said, drawing cheers from the audience.

The world's highest-altirail bridge and motorable road, biggest cricket stadium and tallest statue are in India now, he

Referring to India's historic achievement of landing its spacecraft on the Moon, he said one wants to be among family members during the times of celebrations and festivals. "I am now among my family members," he said.

Congratulations to the country have been pouring in from across the world on the successful lunar mission, Modi said, adding Indians everywhere are receiving congratulatory messages.

He noted the success has come days before the festival of Raksha Bandhan

Govt keen to address public concerns on Smart Meters, Toll Plaza issues: Div Com



Ramesh Kumar addressing media persons on Friday.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Divisional Commissioner Ramesh Kumar on Friday reassured the public about the efficiency of Smart Meters, while listing the steps taken by the administration to dispel the doubts of consumers regarding the accuracy of power Consumption reading.

In a joint press conference, Divisional Commissioner Ramesh Kumar Additional Director General

Mukesh Singh shared positive updates on the twin significant issues. They shed light on the ongoing efforts of the Government to address concerns related to Smart Meter installations and the Toll Plaza.

While briefing the media, the Divisional Commissioner said that these installations are not unique to Jammu and Kashmir but are being carried out across the nation. He explained that Smart Meters offer connec-

2014. It was further con-

tended that the land at

Village Ban was outside the

Development Authority and

the appellant Mamta Singh

raised the construction of the

house in the said land and

the structure of the house

was completed in the begin-

ning of the year 2017.

of

iurisdiction

Detained YRS activists will be released on assurance by prominent persons: ADGP

JAMMU: Additional Director General of Police Mukesh Singh Friday said that the Yuva Rajput Sabha activists detained for "breach of peace" will be released if any "prominent person" guarantees on their behalf that they would not repeat such an offence.

During a protest on Monday by the Yuva Rajput Sabha (YRS) demanding the removal of the Sarore toll plaza, at least 27 of its activists were detained for violating restrictions around the toll plaza. Authorities had imposed Section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC), which forbids the gathering of four or more people at a particular place, in and around the toll plaza late Monday night.

The YRS is demanding the removal of the toll plaza on the Jammu-Pathankot national highway in the Samba district, claiming that it was illegally set up to collect tolls from the common people. The Jammu ADGP CONTD ON PAGE 9

empower end consumers by curbing power loss.

The Div Com informed that a meeting with Civil society was held in which it was decided to install check meters (old digital meters in parallel to Smart meters) to verify the readings. "The Meters have been installed in

tivity and are designed to a warehouse area where it was found that readings are the same. The same practice would be replicated in other areas for the satisfaction of consumers" he added.

> With over 80 per cent of the installation work already completed in Jammu, the Div Com emphasized

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Jammu Bar, other political parties support Bandh Call for today



in Jammu on Friday.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: J&K National (JKNC), Conference Congress. Peoples Democratic Party (PDP),

Gandhi to join Rahul

in Srinagar today

leader Rahul Gandhi will be

reaching Srinagar on a two-

day "personal visit" and will

be joined by his mother

Sonia Gandhi next day,

Committee (JKPCC) presi-

dent Vikar Rasool Wani said

Wani, however, said the two

senior leaders will have no

political engagement or

meeting with any party lead-

ers in Srinagar during the

Rahul has been in the

Union Territory of Ladakh

the past one week and will be

leaving for Srinagar after

addressing a public rally in

Kargil Friday morning, the JKPCC president told PTI.

He said he will be joined by

his mother Sonia Gandhi on

After his rally, Rahul will

lay a wreath at the Kargil

war memorial to honour the

war martrys. Then on his

way to Srinagar, he will have

WEATHER

Sunset: 19:01 Hours

Sunrise: 05:54 Hours

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Min: 48

a stopover in Drass

Max: 33.0°C

Max: 29.2°C

Max: 74

Max: 85

Congress

Kashmir

Congress

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR:

Jammu

Pradesh

on Friday.

"family tour."

Saturday.

other organizations have supported Jammu Bandh call of Chamber of Commerce and Industries (CCI) Jammu on August 26

Controversial palatial bungalow of Ex-DyCM at Nagrota

JDA issues fresh demolition order; Special Tribunal orders status-quo Sale Deed dated Mat 20,

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a significant development, the Jammu Development Authority (JDA) issued a fresh demolition order to Mamta Singh, wife of Dr Nirmal Singh, former Deputy Chief Minister of J&K, directing her to demolish the unauthorised construction of the palatial house situated at Village Ban in Nagrota, within a period of five days, failing which the same shall be demolished by Enforcement Wing of the JDA at the cost of the viola-

However, Mamta Sharma

preferred an appeal against the fresh demolition order dated July 28, 2023 before the J&K Special Tribunal, Jammu and the Bench-III of the Tribunal directed the JDA to maintain the status quo on spot with regard to the demolition notice issued afresh by JDA to Mamta Singh under Section 7(3) of the Control of Building Operations Act, 1988 for raising the construction of a residential house at Village Ban (Nagrota), Jammu allegedly without seeking permission from JDA.

Advocate R.K. Gupta with Advocate Akshay Sadhotra appearing for appellant Mamta Singh and Advocate Anchit H Sharma (Standing Counsel JDA) alongwith Chakshu Sawhney (Legal Assistant JDA), a Bench headed by Member-IIIobserved that the Senior Counsel has contended that Mamta Singh the appellant has acquired the land measuring 04 Kanals comprising in Khasra No.441 min, Khata No.534 min, Khewat No.80 situated at Revenue Village Ban, Tehsil Nagrota District Jammu by virtue of

It was also pointed out that during the entire period of construction and thereafter there was no complaint by any Development Authority and rightly so as the

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

in employment, education ■ STATE TIMES NEWS DELHI:

SC seeks replies from Centre, states, UTs on

plea seeking reservation for transgenders

NEW

Supreme Court on Friday sought responses from the Centre, states and Union Territories on a petition seeking reservation for transgender people in public employment and education.

A bench comprising Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud and Justices J B Pardiwala and Manoj Misra was dealing with a plea filed by a transgender person from Kerala.

When the counsel for the petitioner told the bench that the plea seeks reservation

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

CJI declares Sep 8 as holiday in SC in view of G20 Summit DELHI:

Supreme Court will remain closed on September 8 with Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud on Friday declaring it as a holiday in view of the G20 Summit in the national capital, a notifi cation issued by the apex

ourt said. The G20 Summit will be held in Delhi on September

A notification issued on the apex court website said the CJI has declared September

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

CS holds deliberations with stakeholders to reduce travel time of HMVs on NH-44



Chief Secretary Dr Arun Kumar Mehta chairing a meeting at Srinagar on Friday

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary Dr Arun Kumar Mehta on Friday held detailed deliberations with all the stakeholders including the Highway authorities for finding ways and means to further reduce the travel time on Sgr-Jmu National

Highway for the Heavy Motor Vehicles (HMVs) ahead of the fruit season this

The meeting was attended Additional Secretary, Home; Principal Secretary, PWD; Divisional Commissioner

Traffic; cerned

During the meeting, the traffic authorities presented empirical data regarding the actual movement of LMVs and HMVs on the highway and their driving patterns on this road. For the purpose of understanding the traffic between 70 Kms stretch of Navyug and Chenani-Nashri Tunnels for a period of 15 days was considered.

While making his observations regarding remedial measures for smooth flow of traffic on the road, the

PCI extends entry date for NAEJ

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The Press Council of India (PCI) has extended the last date of receiving entries National Awards Excellence in Journalism (NAEJ) till 31st August, 2023 before 5:00 PM.

A communique of PCI in this regard on Friday reads, "In continuation of the earlier Advertisement notice of the Press Council of India dated 02.07.2023, the last date of receiving the entries for National Awards for Excellence in Journalism is extended till 31.08.2023before 5:00 PM". The communique also reads that

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

DPAP to ensure holistic development of Marwah, Warwan areas: Azad

STATE TIMES NEWS

KISHTWAR: Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) Ghulam Nabi Azad on Friday assured people of Marwah and Warwan that if elected DPAP would ensure comprehensive development of these far-flung areas which have been ignored by successive governments after his tenure as Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir.

Addressing series of public meetings during his four-day tour of the remote Marwah and Warwan areas of Kishtwar district where he was accorded rousing wel-



Chairman DPAP Ghulam Nabi Azad addressing public meeting at Marwah on Friday.

come, Azad assured construction of tunnels which would connect these remote areas with Kashmir, electric-

as the villages remain cut off from rest of the country most of the year. Flaying the successive governments of

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

My priority is to tame inflation: FM Sitharaman

NEW DELHI: Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Friday said the government's priority is to tame inflation to ensure sustained economic growth. Addressing the B20

Summit India, being hosted by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), the minister said the GDP numbers for the first quarter, to be released this month, should be good. Observing that elevated

interest rates for considerable time hampers recovery, Sitharaman said, "my priority is to tame inflation. Retail inflation soared to a

15-month high of 7.44 per cent in July, mainly on account of spiralling prices of tomatoes and vegetables.

On growth, she said that India has been able to accel-



reforms and the first quarter GDP numbers "should be

The National Statistical Office is scheduled to release the GDP numbers for the first quarter on August 31. Sitharaman said that "green shoots' of private cap-

ital expenditure can be felt on

back of the government's push for capital expenditure in the budget.

She also spoke about climate financing and reforms being undertaken by the government to attract foreign investments as they are vital for economic growth.

Responding to a question on the impact of slowdown in

China, India and the rest of the world, the Finance Minister said she would "rather play the India story" rather than talk about developments in China which is witnessing an economic slow-

Acknowledging that developments in China is a matter of concern for all, she said "I would rather play the India

"While I'll keep a watch on the developments happening in China, I am more focused on India's moment, on the opportunities that exist in India, the skills, and the work culture where the young are revving to go forward and prove themselves. So, we should speak for India's strengths and not for the suffering of somebody else," the minister said.

"I am presenting India for

the strength it has now. Particularly with the young population, which is a skilled English speaking population and a population which goes by a transparent system of governance and the system where legal remedies are available through courts," she said.

In her address, the minister talked about steps taken by the government to promote infrastructure development, startups and address climate

She focused on five key priorities that are required for sustained global economic recovery -- emphasis on investment for spurring growth, global focus on investment in public health and education, climate change finance, diversification of supply chains, and taming inflation

SIA Jammu arrests another accused involved in Narco terror

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Another key accused person Liyaqat involved in Narco terror FIR 69/23 Police Station Poonch arrested by SIA in Poonch

Brief facts of the case are that on May 30, 2023, an attempt was made by four associates in a narco terror module to smuggle drugs and explosives into India across the border fence at Poonch. The accused persons were intercepted by Sikh LI and apprehended with arms, ammunition, IEDs and Heroin.

Upon investigation it was revealed that the group of four persons (of which one had absconded from the spot) were being supervised by key accused Md Javed who was recently arrested by SIA in Delhi.

Upon technical surveillance and human intelligence, it was ascertained that Liyaqat had played an important role in planning the entire conspiracy with Md Javed and other accused persons. Liyaqat had also provided material assistance in carrying out the conspiracy and assisted Md Javed to abscond after the case was registered. Liyaqat runs a provisions shop in Poonch. On July 6, 2023, FIR 69/2023 Police Station Poonch was transferred for investigation to SIA Jammu. Further investigation into

aspects of cross border operation of this narco terror syndicate which is found smuggling arms, explosives and narcotics consignments across the border is

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9