

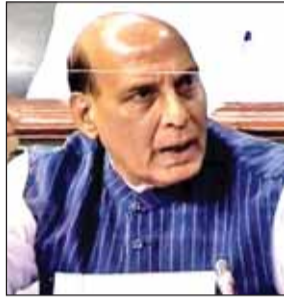
**03** CB files charge sheet against accused in Rs 28 crore fraud case

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**10** Vinod led team makes clean sweep in Jammu cricket elections

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## India facing a 'challenge' in Ladakh but troops ready: Rajnath



**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NEW DELHI: Firmly articulating the government's position on the tense Sino-India border row in eastern Ladakh, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Tuesday said China has been very clearly conveyed that any attempt to "unilaterally" change the status quo along the LAC is not at all acceptable, while acknowledging

### Army prepares for long winter in Ladakh

LEH: From heating appliances and climate appropriate clothing to rations, fuel and tents that protect from the biting cold, all necessary supplies have reached the forward areas for the Army to gear up for the long, freezing winter in Ladakh region, officials asserted amid the tensions on the Line of Actual Control.

The Ladakh region witnesses sub-zero temperatures and is mostly cut off from the rest of the country for months during the winters. As tensions between the armies of India and China at the LAC show no sign of ebbing, both sides have significantly ramped up the presence of their troops.

Accordingly, India's Army has been beefing up its stocks of food, ammunition, fuel and more importantly the winter gear. Major General Arvind Kapoor, Chief of Staff of the Fire and Fury Corps --- also known as the XIV Corps which has the mandate of securing the frontiers along the China and Pakistan borders from Kargil to Ladakh --- said the unit takes pride in its advance winter stocking.

Our stocking levels, be it that India is facing a "challenge" in the region. Making a statement in Lok

Sabha, Singh said there should be no doubt about the country's determination to

protect its sovereignty and territorial integrity, and asserted that India's armed forces are ready to deal with "all contingencies" in the high-altitude region.

Referring to the Galwan Valley clashes on June 15, the defence minister said Indian soldiers "inflicted costs including casualties on the Chinese side", adding the House should have "full confidence" that the armed forces will always rise to the challenge and make the country proud.

"I will not hesitate to share with this august House that we are facing a challenge in Ladakh and I urge the House to pass a resolution in support of our armed forces who have been defending

Soldier martyred, officer among two injured in Pak firing along LoC in Rajouri

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: An army jawan was martyred and two others, including an officer, were injured on Tuesday after Pakistani troops fired with small arms and shelled mortars along the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district, officials said.

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Two Al-Badr OGWs held in Pulwama; Rs 6 lakh seized

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: Security forces on Tuesday arrested two overground workers (OGWs) of terrorists from Pulwama district and seized Rs 6 lakh from their possession meant for funding the Al-Badr terrorist outfit, police said. Acting on a specific

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## Panels formed to prepare roadmap for conducting panchayat, BDC bypolls in J&K

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir administration has constituted an apex level and two divisional level committees to conduct preparatory work for by-elections for panchayats and block development councils (BDC) in the Union Territory.

The apex level committee will draw a roadmap and detailed schedule for conduct of elections to vacant panchayats and BDCs across the union territory, an official spokesman said.

It would do its exercise on

the basis of inputs provided by the divisional level committees and upon assessment of the ground level situation taking into consideration security, logistics, personnel and equipment, he said.

The apex committee will be headed by Principal Secretary to the government, Home Department.

On the basis of assessment of manpower, security, logistics, transport, equipment and all other requirements, the divisional level committees will submit an outline of the possibilities and con-

straints to the apex level committee for holding panchayat and BDC elections, the spokesman said.

He said the divisional level committees in Kashmir and Jammu will be headed by the respective divisional commissioners.

The divisional level committee will submit its report to the apex level committee by September 21, 2020, while the apex level committee shall submit its report to the government by September 28, 2020, the spokesman said.

## LG e-inaugurates career education platform for students



LG Manoj Sinha e-inaugurating Online Process-Based Career Education Platform at Srinagar.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday e-inaugurated an online process-based, standardised and scalable career education platform for students here.

The initiative is a step towards transforming the way in which our youth look at building their future in the world of possibilities, an official spokesman said.

"The online, process-based, standardized and scalable, globally certified, career edu-

cation platform, under career education initiative of J-K government in partnership with Transform Foundation aims to harness the energy, enthusiasm, and exuberant dreams of the youth of J&K," the spokesman said.

The overall intent is to enable curiosity, creative thinking, and awareness in youth along with decision-making skills which will lead to continuous, lifelong learning and career

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## India walks out of SCO meet after Pak rep projects 'fictitious map'

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NEW DELHI: India on Tuesday walked out of a meeting of the national security advisors of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) member countries in protest after the Pakistani representative used a "fictitious" map showing Indian territories as part of Pakistan.

"This was in blatant disregard to the advisory by the host against it and in violation of the norms of the meeting. After consultation with the host, the Indian side left the meeting in protest at that juncture," External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson

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## Encroachment on huge government land CBI registers FIR against trust run by ex-J&K BJP Minister's wife

Raids conducted at 10 locations including Jammu, Kathua

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU/KATHUA: The CBI has registered a case against a Kathua-based educational trust, run by former Jammu and Kashmir BJP Minister Ch Lal Singh's wife, and some government officials to probe encroachment on a huge tract of government land.

When contacted, Singh told PTI, "The CBI is doing its work."

The CBI said in a statement, Searches were conducted today at 10 locations including Jammu and Kathua at the premises of aforesaid educational trust/its Chairperson and residential premises of other



CBI sleuths at Ch Lal Singh's Kathua residence on Tuesday morning.

accused which led to recovery of documents related to movable/immovable property, etc.

A huge contingent of police reached Lal Singh's Kathua residence and conducted day

long searches.

The case has been registered against R B Educational Trust through its chairperson and Singh's wife Kanta Andotra, former Deputy Commissioner of

Kathua Ajay Singh Jamwal and former Tehsildar of Marheen Avatar Singh.

Besides, the then Naib Tehsildar Chann Rorian (Marheen Tehsil) Des Raj, the then Girdawar Ram Pal, the then Patwari Sudesh Kumar and other unknown persons have also been booked, the statement said.

The Central Bureau of Investigation had in June registered a Preliminary Enquiry (PE) on the allegations of encroachment on a huge tract of public/government/forest land in Kathua by certain persons in violation of J&K Agrarian Reforms Act in

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## 1,329 fresh COVID-19 cases in J&K, tally rises to 56,654; 19 more die

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir recorded 1,329 fresh coronavirus cases on Tuesday, raising the infection count to 56,654, while the death toll reached 914 with 19 more fatalities, officials said.

It was for the 13th consecutive day that the number of fresh cases crossed 1,000 in a 24-hour period. The UT recorded 1,329

### India's COVID-19 caseload races past 50 lakh

NEW DELHI: India's COVID-19 caseload raced past the 50-lakh mark on Tuesday night, just 11 days after it crossed 40 lakh, while the total number of recoveries too surged to 39,26,096, according to data from states and union territories. The Union health ministry data updated on Tuesday 8 am showed single-day spike of 83,809 infections, taking the country's COVID-19 tally

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fresh cases of COVID-19 in the past 24 hours -- 741 in the Jammu region and 588 in the Kashmir valley," the

officials said.

The cumulative figure of positive cases in Jammu

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## LS passes bill to cut salaries of MPs by 30 per cent

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NEW DELHI: Lok Sabha on Tuesday passed a bill to reduce for one year the salaries of MPs by 30 per cent "to meet the exigencies" arising out of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Bill, 2020 was introduced in the Lower House on Monday. It will replace the Salary, Allowances And Pension of

Members of Parliament (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020.

The ordinance was cleared by the Cabinet on April 6 and promulgated the next day.

Replying to the debate on the bill, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi said that funds are needed to fight the COVID-19 pandemic and "charity should begin from home". He also said that the

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## ACB arrests JE R&B for misappropriation of funds

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Tuesday arrested a Junior Engineer posted on R&B Shopian for misappropriation of funds.

As per an official spokesperson, the Anti-Corruption Bureau arrested one Hakeem Imtiyaz, a Junior Engineer posted in R&B Shopian for misappropriation of funds deposited by a cellular company in lieu of damages caused to roads

for laying of telephone cables. On basis of a verification, ACB registered a case vide FIR No. 06/2020 under Sections 5(1)(c), 5(d)(2) of PC Act Svt. 2006 & 420, 468, 471 RPC read with Section 120-B of RPC in Police Station ACB Anantnag, he added.

The Spokesman further told that instant case was registered by ACB during verification of allegations of misappropriation of funds received by R&B

Department in Shopian/Handwara Districts. During the course of verification conducted prior to registration of case, it was surfaced that huge amount of money tuning of Rs 2,67,31,411 was deposited by Private cellular companies in Arhama (Shopian) Branch of Axis Bank in fake name of Assistant Engineer R&B Division Shopian, opened by the aforesaid Junior Engineer namely

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# J&K must have a Hindu CM! But who?

Prominent and distinguished civil society members speak out



**Former DGP J&K, Kuldeep Khoda:** "Constitutionally J&K, like any other part of the country, had its Chief Ministers elected by ruling majority in the assembly. However, for reasons, which can't be justified by Constitution we have been getting Chief Ministers mostly from the Valley and always from a particular community. It has not been a mere coincidence but practiced by all ruling regional and national parties right from independence till 2018 when we had the last Chief Minister of erstwhile J&K State. Now with J&K having been granted Union Territory status by Parliament, it is expected that democratic process will be followed in letter and spirit and vote bank or appeasement politics is not allowed to overtake the constitutional process. Strangely for most part of last seven decades Jammu region, though having more electorate than the Valley, political management ensured 46 assembly seats to Kashmir with Jammu getting 37. Similar has been the case with seats to Lok Sabha with less number of electorate

electing 3 MPs from the Valley and larger number of electorate sending two MPs to Indian Parliament. With new Delimitation Commission at its job, it is hoped that this long pending anomaly is addressed and election of Chief Minister ensured in a manner so that not only constitutional justice is done but is also seen to be done. The elected MLAs have an important role to play in ensuring that Head of the UT is chosen to infuse confidence among all sections of people and to meet aspirations of two diverse regions of UT the Chief Ministers of both regions irrespective of community are elected from to time".



**Former President of CCI Y V Sharma:** "I am surprised at this question whether we want a Hindu CM or a Muslim. My frank answer is that we want a good human being as CM who attends to the welfare of all the citizens of the Union Territory, irrespective of caste, colour, creed or gender. We know that there is a definite constitutional provision of electing a CM which has to be adhered to in all the cases. Moreover, rule of law has to prevail in all cases but it is paradox that the same is generally violated and manipulated", he said.



**Retired Chief Education Officer Sham Sharma:** "Jammu and Kashmir must have Hindu Chief Minister and in my view he can be Devinder Singh Rana who can recognize the voice of Jammu as well as device strategy for the development of J&K. His vision with his progressive plan of action may benefit the people of Jammu. He can help in improving the economy too, as he is good businessman cum politician and being a Jammuite he knows all the issues and problems. So, I think he is best to be the next Hindu CM of J&K."



**Advocate Ankur Sharma** said, "From roaring to have 'Hindu CM' to whimpering while seeking 'CM from Jammu' are proven to be hollow political slogans only. When BJP could have made a Hindu CM in 2015 it chose not to and without even uttering a word handed over complete power to PDP and that too twice. Later, they pitched for a 2 MLA party's leader to become a CM. Lately; by sticking to delimitation based upon Census-2011 despite popular resistance they have ensured that Jammu shall continue to remain a political slave of Kashmir. In their zeal for getting certificate of secularism from Muslims, they are now pitching for a Jammu CM."



**Former HoD Nephrology, GMC Jammu Dr S K Bali:** "Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory should have a Hindu Chief Minister from Jammu region only because the region has suffered a lot of discrimination in the past at the hands of Kashmir-centric leadership. A competent, forceful and pro-Jammu person should be chosen for the job. Keeping the past record in mind, I think Sham Lal Sharma is the most eligible candidate to steer the UT efficiently. Otherwise some non-political personality having a forceful attitude and high intellect can be chosen.



**Sugam Bral, Culture Activist:** "Sham Lal Sharma is apt candidate for being the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir. He has been in the forefront for the equitable development of J&K since the inception of his political career. In spite of the party affiliations he has championed the cause of Jammu and Dogras and has never been a fence sitter. His performance as a minister holding various portfolios in the previous dispensation was exemplary. He is the first public figure who despite belonging to a different party line in the previous dispensation demanded justice for Jammu region and asked for a separate Jammu State so that the human rights of highly discriminated Dogras are upheld."

**WEATHER**

Temperature (Jammu)  
Max: 35.6°C Min: 25.2°C

Humidity  
Max: 75 Min: 56

Temperature (Srinagar)  
Max: 30.1°C Min: 14.6°C

Humidity  
Max: 71 Min: 39

Sunset: 18:39 Hours  
Sunrise: 06:16 Hours