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How long India would be kept out of decision-making structures of UN: Modi

■ AGENCY

UNITED NATIONS: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday strongly pressed for reforms in the United Nations and asked how long India would be "kept out of the decision-making structures" of the global body, even as he raised questions on UN's "effective response" in combating the COVID-19 pandemic that has ravaged the world.

The prime minister's strong push for reforms in the process and responses of the UN, and the much-delayed expansion of the powerful Security Council came as India will begin its two-year term as an elected non-permanent member of the 15-member Council from January 1 next year.

"For how long will India be kept out of the decision-making structures of the United Nations? How long would a country have to wait particularly when the transformational changes happening in that country affect a large part of the world?" Modi



asked in his pre-recorded video statement in Hindi to the landmark General Debate of the 75th session of the UN General Assembly.

Asserting that as the world's largest democracy, India will bring years of rich experience for the benefit of the whole world, Modi said while the faith and respect that the UN enjoys among the 1.3 billion people in India is "unparalleled", it is also true that the people of India have been waiting for a long time for the process for the reforms of the world body to get completed.

"Today, people of India are concerned whether this reform-process will ever reach its logical conclusion," he said, adding that every Indian today, while seeing the contribution of India in the world organisation, aspires for India's expanded role in the United Nations.

During his address, the Prime Minister also underscored the disconnect between the UN and contemporary global realities, saying the world of today is a completely different era from the world of 1945 when the global situation, sources-

resources, problems-solutions were all quite different, and raised questions on the response of the UN in combating the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Over the last 8 to 9 months, the whole world has been battling the pandemic of the coronavirus. Where is the United Nations in this joint fight against the pandemic? Where is its effective response?" Modi said as he asserted that reform in the responses, in the processes, and in the very character of the UN is the need of the hour.

In his nearly 23-minute address, the prime minister said that even during these very difficult times of the raging pandemic, India's pharmaceutical industry has sent essential medicines to over 150 countries.

"As the largest vaccine producing country of the world, I want to give one more assurance to the global community today. India's vaccine production and

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Gulmarg Gondola Section-I to resume operations on weekends from today

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The government of Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday decided to resume the commercial operation of Gulmarg Gondola Section-I (Gulmarg - Kongdoori) on weekends, starting from September 27, 2020- the World Tourism Day.

As per the concerned authorities the operations will be carried out only twice a week viz Saturdays and Sundays by observing

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Pak shells forward areas along LoC

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: Pakistani troops on Saturday violated ceasefire by resorting to firing and shelling on forward areas along the Line of Control (LoC) in Rajouri district of Jammu and Kashmir, a defence spokesman said.

The shelling and firing from across the border in Nowshera sector was "unprovoked" and drew a befitting retaliation by the Indian Army, the spokesman

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Two KAS officers suspended in Rs 250-cr bank fraud case

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir administration on Saturday suspended two senior officials pending an inquiry into their conduct in a case pertaining to Rs 250-crore bank fraud, officials said

The administration suspended Kashmir Administrative Service (KAS) officer Mujib-ur-Rehman Ghassi, Special Secretary to the Government, Industries and Commerce Department, and Ashiq Hussain, Deputy Registrar Cooperative

Societies J-K, pending an inquiry against them, they said.

The officials said two separate suspension orders were issued on Saturday against the officials by the General Administration Department (GAD).

The officials said Ghassi will remain attached with the GAD during the period of his suspension, while Hussain shall remain attached in the office of the Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir.

The names of both the officials were mentioned in a case, registered by the Anti-

Corruption Bureau (ACB) on August 25, related to Rs 250 crore loan to a non-existent cooperative housing society two years ago.

The ACB produced a charge-sheet against three persons, including a former chairman of Jammu and Kashmir Cooperative Bank, for sanctioning a Rs 250 crore loan to a non-existent cooperative housing society.

The ACB filed the charge-sheet against Mohammad Shafi Dar, the then chairman of J-K State Cooperative Bank Limited

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1,217 new COVID-19 cases, 20 deaths recorded in J&K

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday recorded 1,217 fresh coronavirus cases, while 20 deaths took place in the past 24 hours, taking the total number of cases to 71,049 and the death toll to 1,125, officials said.

It was for the 24th consec-

utive day that the number of fresh cases crossed 1,000 in a 24-hour period.

"The UT recorded 1,217 fresh cases of COVID-19 in the past 24 hours, with 720 cases in Jammu and 497 in the Kashmir valley," the officials said.

The cumulative figure of positive cases in Jammu and

Kashmir has now risen to 71,049.

Jammu district reported the highest number of 301 new cases, followed by 180 in Srinagar district, the officials said.

There are 18,430 active cases in the UT, while 51,494 patients have recovered

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CAG flags deficiencies in PDD, says J&K's power purchase deficit at Rs 14,871 cr in 2012-17

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The CAG's performance audit of power purchase agreements and electric revenue collection for 2012-13 to 2016-17 have brought out deficiencies in Jammu and Kashmir Power Development Department (JKPDD).

The CAG in its report has flagged short comings in power purchase planning, signing and operationalisation of power purchase agreements, and collection of revenue. Besides, it also pointed out financial mismanagement and weakness in internal control.

Pulls up JKPCCE for poor performance

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir Projects Construction Corporation (JKPCC) Limited came up for sharp criticism from the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) for its poor performance and failure to finalise its accounts amid sharp decline in the

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J&K suffered a power purchase deficit of Rs 14,871 crore during 2012-17. As against an expenditure

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HM discusses issues concerning Ladakh with reps

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday held a meeting here with the public representatives of Ladakh and discussed various issues concerning the union territory.

Union Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju, Union Minister of State for Home G Kishan Reddy, Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla and Director of

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Earthquake of 4.5 magnitude hits J&K

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: A medium-intensity earthquake hit Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday, but there were no reports of any damage or loss of life, officials said.

The earthquake of 4.5 magnitude occurred at 12:02 pm at a depth of 120 km.

There were no reports of any damage to property or injury or loss of life, they added.

WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 34.6°C Min: 22.2°C

Humidity
Max: 73 Min: 53

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 24.2°C Min: 9.8°C

Humidity
Max: 57 Min: 38

Sunset : 18:24 Hours
Sunrise : 06:23 Hours

Corruption gets wings in J&K, corrupt fear none!

JAMMU: In a startling case of alleged embezzlement and browbeating, a middle rung engineer of Public Works Department has landed in a soup with Central Bureau of Investigations likely taking up the matter to investigate how he managed a copy of the yet to be pronounced order of Central Administrative Tribunal and joining the place of posting from which he had been removed on the charges of corrupt practices.

Pawan Kumar Gupta, the then Executive Engineer, Public Works, Roads and Buildings Department Udhampur was attached

with the office of the Chief Engineer, R&B on August 3, 2020 allegedly for misappropriation. A panel was set up to initiate enquiry against him. In the meantime, the engineer was posted as Executive Engineer Chatroo, which is seen as a safe passage at the behest of some top functionaries in the administration. If sources are to be believed, the posting of Pawan Kumar Gupta was aimed at bailing him out from being referred to the Anti Corruption Bureau. He



SPECIAL REPORT

was not suspended pending enquiry either. The engineer was transferred which is no punishment for a government official.

The drama of attachment and transfer to Chatroo, according to sources, was part of a game plan to ensure joining of the engineer at his earlier place of posting; he moved the Central Administrative Tribunal and challenged his order of attachment. The verdict was likely to be in his favour, which he might have got to know. This prompted and enabled him to seek the copy

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COVID-19: Ladakh records 56 new cases, 2 more deaths

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

LEH: Ladakh has registered 56 new coronavirus cases and two more fatalities, taking the infection tally to 4,025 and death toll to 56 in the Union Territory, officials said on Saturday.

Seventy-eight more patients were discharged after successful treatment, bringing down the number of active cases in the region to 998, the officials said, quoting a media bulletin released by the directorate of health services, Ladakh.

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Time to exert more pressure on terrorists: DGP

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Jammu & Kashmir Police and all security forces in Jammu and Kashmir have sacrificed number of officers and Jawans in achieving peace in the Union Territory, and it is time to exert more pressure on the terrorists and their supporters.

This was stated by the Director General of Police J&K, Dilbag Singh while chairing high-level meetings to review present security scenario in the Valley with officers from the administra-



DGP Dilbag Singh during his visit to Anantnag.

tion, Army, Police, CAPF at Police Control Room Kashmir, and also at Anantnag on Saturday.

The meeting at PCR Kashmir was attended by Divisional

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On Aug 5, PM cleared way for ending gender discrimination against women in J&K but ‘his people’ failed him

Shadows of Gender Discriminating J&K State Subject Laws of pre-1947 days & those of PR laws of erstwhile Indian State of J&K still casting their ugly shadows

■ DAYA SAGAR

Delay in issuing clarifications removing doubts/orders to the dealing officers concerning the Permanent Resident of J&K Certificate holder 'girl child' / woman married to a non-Permanent Resident (PR) of erstwhile Indian state of J&K laying down that Children of a PRC holder woman married to a Non PR of J&K Indian citizen and the Non PR husband / spouse be issued Domicile Certificate (DC) on the basis of the PRC of the mother / wife only is surely unduly affecting the goodwill of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi even after his having got Art-35A scraped. There is utmost need for issuing amendments / clarification as Regards Rule- 5 of S.O 166 or 18-05-2020 { Jammu and Kashmir Grant of Domicile Certificate (procedure) Rules 2020 } on priority so that the applicants as well as the designated competent authority for issue of DC are relieved of undue stresses/ pressures/harassment . A draft amendment as it could be made in

TABLE - A : Proposed / likely amendment as it could be in the table contained in Rule-5 (Class of persons, Documents required , Authority Competent and Appellate Authority for issuance of Domicile Certificate)					
I Sr.No /Clause	II Category of domicile	III Relevant section of The Jammu and Kashmir Civil services " Decentralization and Recruitment" Act 2010	IV Competent Authority for issuance of Domicile Certificate	V Documents to be Annexed with Application	VI Appellate Authority
1	(b)Children of Persons possessing Permanent Resident Certificate	Section 3A (2b) read with Section -3A (1a)	Tehsildar/Naib Tehsildar	(a).Permanent Resident certificate of either of the parents and (b) Birth certificate issued by Competent Authority or any proof there of	Deputy Commissioner
	(c) Spouse of a Person possessing Permanent Resident Certificate	Section 3A (2b) read with Section -3A (1a)	Tehsildar/ Naib Tehsildar	(a)Permanent Resident certificate of the spouse and (b) Marriage certificate issued by Competent Authority/or any proof there of	Deputy Commissioner

the table contained in Rule- 5 (Rule-5 : Class of persons, Documents required , Authority Competent and Appellate Authority for issuance of Domicile Certificate) of S.O 166 dated 18-05-2020, suggested earlier also, is placed

herewith in Table -A . If needed it could be improved further.

Before Independence the Indian Princely State of Jammu and Kashmir had restricted the rights, particularly on state services and properties in J&K, to the peo-

ple who were notified as the State Subjects of Jammu and Kashmir. In the State Subject law of the Princely State of J&K the male subjects of J&K had been legally and socially rated superior to the female thereby in a way inflicting inhuman gender discrimination against woman subjects since the woman of the State in case married a non State Subject (one from any other territory outside J&K) her husband as well as children had no fundamental right to become the State Subject of J&K. Where as in case a male married a non state subject woman then such woman as well as their children had the right to become State Subject of the then Princely State.

Even after independence a J&K State specific law was adopted to create a category of some Indian Citizens by the name of Permanent Resident of J&K , in a way including all the erstwhile State Subjects of Princely State of J&K / would be State subjects of J&K in that category, also carrying along the discriminatory

inhuman rules / law involving gender specific discrimination against the woman state subjects / permanent residents of J&K. Although the rules / laws permitting gender discrimination against woman in J&K were provided a constitutional cover by Art-35A of Constitution of India but still the local governments/ legislature had provisions to apply corrections but that did not happen for nearly 7 decades. And it was only when people voted to strength the great humanitarian Narendra Damodar Das Modi that The Constitution (Application to Jammu and Kashmir) order, 2019 C.O. 272 of date 5th August 2019 was got issued by President of India there by superseding C.O 48 of 14-05-1954 and hence also scrapping Art35A.

There after followed the Reorganisation of J&K Act No 34 of 2019 and the removal difficulties orders where under the requirement where ever mentioned Permanent Resident Certificate as a requirement too was deleted. All round appreciations

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