

02 Mini-bus carrying Baaratis turns turtle, 1 dies, 11 injured

03 Chugh asks Sonia Gandhi to come clean on 'anti-national' Navjot Sidhu

10 Jammu, Kulgam, Anantnag, JKP reach semifinals of 33rd J&K Men Volleyball C'ship

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

Govt committed to return of KPs to Valley: LG

Accelerated Recruitment Committee set up in J&K

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Dwelling upon the need for the rehabilitation of the displaced communities from the Valley and outlined the recently launched online facility whereby the aggrieved families can submit their applications to get justice with respect to their immovable properties, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Sunday said that to undo the injustice of decades, we are committed to bring back all the families who were forced to leave in despair, and restore the culture of glorious brotherhood in Kashmir.

In this month's episode of "Awaam ki Awaaz" radio programme, aired on Sunday on all local & primary channels of All India Radio (AIR) in the UT and broadcast on the Channel DD Kashir, the LG spoke on the suggestion of Sanjay Kumar Pandita, who had written on the need for introducing the teaching of Sharda script at various levels of education.

He also mentioned Sadaket Ali from Doda who suggested for the creation of separate sections for Bhalesi, Bhaderwahi, Padri, Sarazi and Poguli in



J&K Academy of Art Culture and Languages. The Lt Governor informed that the government is conscious of the need and is determined to promote the forgotten and local languages through a comprehensive program.

He also spoke on the existing arrangement whereby the scholars are provided with adequate opportunities to read and research on the Sharda script at both the State Archives and the State libraries in both Jammu and Srinagar.

The Lt Governor emphasized that the UT administration is committed to providing training, mentoring and intensive capacity building through initiatives like SAATH and UMEED, primarily aimed at reinforcing the rural women enterprise. There are schemes like Karkhandar which are aimed at giving a fresh impetus to the training in handicraft sector in the UT. These initiatives gain strength from the suggestions of Chander Kumar Bhushan from Ramnagar and Dr. Arif from Srinagar, who make an interesting case for the promotion of handicrafts and the revival of Copper Utensils Small scale industry of the valley, respectively.

To a suggestion from Prof. Geer Mohammad Ishaq from Srinagar who had delved upon some of the most thought-provoking steps related to reforms in school education, the Lt Governor underlined the indispensable need for inculcating the problem-solving skills, logical, creative and scientific temper in the children in the realm of education in post covid scenario. He also outlined the efforts of the Department of School

Smuggler held with 80 kg of medicinal herb 'Nag Chatri'

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KISHTWAR: Police on Sunday arrested a smuggler and recovered 80 kg of banned medicinal herb 'Nag Chatri' worth lakhs of rupees from his possession in Kishtwar district on Sunday.

Mohd Yousaf, a resident of Drubeel, was arrested from Mughal Maidan market in Chatroo area with four sacks of forest produce 'Nag Chatri' (Trillium Govianum) in his possession, a police spokesperson said.

The police had set up a checkpoint in the market area following

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Govt yet to take call on 68 names sent by SC collegium for appointment as HC judges

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The government is yet to take a call on the recommendations made by the Supreme Court collegium on appointing a total of 68 judicial officers and advocates as judges of various high courts, sources aware of the procedure for appointment to the higher judiciary have said.

Between August 8 and September 1 this year, the apex court collegium had processed over 100 names recommended by various high courts and had finally sent 68 names to the govern-

ment for appointment as judges to 12 high courts.

The government is yet to take a call on the names recommended by the SC collegium headed by Chief Justice of India N V Ramana, the sources said.

Out of the 68 names, two from Karnataka and one from Jammu and Kashmir have been sent for a third time, while 10 others have been recommended for a second time. The rest are fresh recommendations.

Prior to these recommendations, in a historic decision on August 17, the SC col-

legium had sent nine names, including three women, for elevation as judges of the Supreme Court.

The names were cleared with significant pace by the government leading to their swearing-in as apex court judges on August 31.

On Friday, the Supreme Court collegium is learnt to have recommended eight names of judges, including acting chief justice of Calcutta High Court Justice Rajesh Bindal, for their elevation as chief justices of different high courts.

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COVID guidelines: Govt enhances Banquet halls gathering to 50 persons, night curfew to continue

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Night curfew to continue and the limit for indoor and outdoor activities also remain 25 persons in the Jammu and Kashmir, where authorities have already reopened educational institutions with limited in person

teaching subject to 100 per cent vaccination.

However, in banquet halls in case of the positive rate is below 0.2 and weekly case load below 250, gathering shall be permitted upto enhanced limit of 50 for vaccinated persons with verifiable RTPCT or

RAT report not older than 72 hours.

An official spokesman said this Sunday evening that a detailed review of current COVID-19 situation in Jammu and Kashmir was held by Chief Secretary, who is chairperson of State Executive

Committee (SEC). Senior officers besides Divisional Commissioners of Kashmir and Jammu and Deputy Commissioners (DCs) also participated in the meeting.

He said review was conducted to assess overall

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J&K reports 168 new COVID cases, no fresh case in Ladakh

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir recorded 168 new COVID-19 cases on Sunday, taking the tally to 3,27,941, while no fresh deaths was reported from the union territory in the past 24 hours, officials said.

Out of the fresh cases, 15 were from the Jammu Division and 153 from the Kashmir Division of the union territory, they said.

The officials said Srinagar district recorded the highest number of 92 cases, followed by 20 cases in Budgam district.

There are 1,493 active cases in the union territory,

while the number of those recovered was 3,22,032, they said.

The death toll in the union territory due the virus was 4,416 as no fresh death was reported in the past 24 hours.

The officials said there were 46 confirmed cases of mucormycosis or black fungus in the union territory as no fresh case was reported since last evening.

Meanwhile, no fresh case of COVID-19 was reported in Ladakh during the past 24 hours, with the number of active cases staying at 109, officials said on Sunday.

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With 278 pc increase, PDD among top 3 in country in growth in digital transactions

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Digital transactions in J&K PDD recorded an increase of 278.77% in the first quarter of the present year over the corresponding period last year.

A total of 3.08 lakh digital transactions were recorded in July 2021 alone and a sum of Rs. 35.04 crores was collected via digital mode by the DISCOMS from the consumers. This was revealed at a meeting chaired on Sunday by the Principal Secretary, Power Development Department, Rohit Kansal, at Data Centre Bemina, Srinagar to review the

progress of various IT projects being carried out for in the power sector and for strengthening IT and Communication Services in the Corporations.

The meeting discussed various aspects and issues related to implementation of Information Technology in JKPD, status and progress achieved in various ongoing projects under RAPDRP, SCADA, RT-DAS, installation of smart metering, Feeder Metering, UID of Distribution Transformers, Billing & Collection, Customer Care, JKPD e-support.

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Congress picks Dalit leader Channi as Punjab CM; oath ceremony today

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

CHANDIGARH: The Congress on Sunday picked Charanjit Singh Channi as the next chief minister of Punjab making him the first Dalit to hold the post in the state, a day after Amarinder Singh resigned following a bitter power tussle in the party. Channi, 49, will take oath at 11 am on Monday.

AICC general secretary Harish Rawat said in a tweet, It gives me immense pleasure to announce that Sh. #CharanjitSinghChanni has been unanimously elected as the Leader of the Congress Legislature Party of Punjab."

Channi's elevation, barely five months before Assembly polls, assumes significance as Punjab has nearly 32 per cent Dalit population.

The BJP had earlier announced that if voted to power in Punjab, it will make a Dalit the chief minister, while the SAD, which

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PDP to fight upcoming assembly elections in J&K: Mehbooba

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The PDP will fight the upcoming assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir, party president Mehbooba Mufti said on Sunday, ruling out an alliance with its erstwhile coalition partner the BJP.

The former chief minister said the situation in Jammu and Kashmir is far from normal which is evident from the twin attacks in Kulgam district in south Kashmir where a policeman and a non-local labourer were killed by militants on Friday.

PDP will fight the (assembly) elections. So far an



alliance is concerned, the question is premature but one thing is absolutely clear that we will not go with that party (BJP), Mehbooba told reporters on the sidelines of a

party function here.

The BJP walked out of the PDP-led government in 2018, ending a three-year-old alliance with the party.

Mehbooba has made it clear time and again that she herself is not going to fight the assembly elections as her objective is to seek restoration of Article 370 of the Constitution which was abrogated by the BJP-led government in August 2019.

Their claim that everything is normal in Jammu and Kashmir is absolutely wrong. People are silent and silence does not mean that the

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Modi accords special priority to J&K: Dr Jitendra

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Union Minister of State Prime Minister's Office (PMO), Science and Technology, Earth Sciences and Space Technology, Dr Jitendra Singh on Sunday reaffirmed that Prime Minister Narendra Modi accords special priority to Jammu and Kashmir due to which its pristine glory is being restored.

He stated this while interacting with representatives of Trade, Commerce, Industry, Tourism, Hotels, Houseboats, Shikaras, Transport and other stakeholders at SKICC here.

The interaction was a part of the Government of India's Public Outreach Programme for Jammu and Kashmir.

The Minister said that PM Modi himself takes keen



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh interacting with representatives of Trade, Commerce, Industry, Tourism, Hotels, Houseboats, Shikaras, Transport and other stakeholders at SKICC.

interest in the matters and issues related to J&K and monitors every project himself as the region is close to his heart.

While responding to the issues, problems and grievances of the representatives of different trade bodies, Dr Singh assured them that all the genuine issues would be

addressed on priority basis.

"Among your issues, there are numerous things which are doable and I assure you that all those issues would be resolved as soon as possible," Dr Singh said.

He said that the present government led by PM Narendra Modi is prompt and responsive which are the

hallmarks and an important parameter of a responsible government.

Dr Singh said that several steps have been taken to promote Jammu and Kashmir on the tourism front and in this regard, J&K Film Policy has been introduced to attract filmmakers which will help to boost the tourism of

the Union Territory. Besides, he said that Kashmir will be connected to the rest of India by rail next year which will be a game-changer for the region's tourism sector as well as for generating employment.

Representatives of Kashmir Chamber of Commerce & Industries, FCIK, Kashmir Economic Alliance, Restaurants & Hajji and Umrah Association, Artisans Rehabilitation Forum, Kashmir Traders and Manufacturers Federation, J&K Hotels and Restaurants Association, Houseboat Owners Association, Hoteliers Club among others met Dr Singh. The representatives put forth issues related to their sectors before the Minister

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Won't hesitate to deal sternly with anti-nationals: Sinha

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said on Sunday that no one will be allowed to harm the country's unity and sovereignty and the government will not hesitate in dealing sternly with those involved in anti-national activities or creating hurdles in the path of peace in the union territory.

Speaking at an event, 'Pedal For Peace', organised by J-K Police here, the L-G also said the time is over when attempts were made to buy peace in J-K and that the administration now



LG Manoj Sinha speaking at the "Pedal for Peace" event organized by JKP at Srinagar.

works with the sole aim of establishing peace in the UT.

No one will be allowed to harm the unity and sovereignty of the country. We want peace and brotherhood, but we will not hesitate in dealing sternly with those

involved in anti-national activities or those creating hurdles in the path of peace in J-K, he said.

Lauding the Jammu and Kashmir Police for its sacrifices, Sinha said

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Property dealers charge-sheeted for selling Govt land

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The Crime Branch Kashmir on Sunday produced charge-sheet against two property dealers for grabbing state land and selling it off to separate persons.

An official of the Crime Branch said that charge-sheet was produced in case FIR No 33/2017 under Sections 420, 120-B, 201-RPC of Police Station CBK against Nazir Ahmad Dar (proprietor. M/S Gousia House Building Co-operative Ltd) of 19-A Dar Enclave Bismillah Colony Parraypora Bhagat Srinagar and Mohammad Ayoub Dar (proprietor. M/S Jawahar House Building Co-operative Ltd Hyderpora Srinagar) of IG Road Near

Jamia Masjid Hyderpora Srinagar before the Court of Chief Judicial Magistrate, Budgam.

As per the Crime Branch Kashmir, a complaint was received for investigating the matter of perpetual lease deed executed by Mohammad Ayoub Dar in favour of one Khurshid Ahmad with regard to land comprising of one Kanal and 8 Marlas at Highland enclave Co-Operative Colony Gogoo Humhama.

The report thereof sought from revenue authorities concerned along with other allied documents revealed that only six marlas of land is the proprietary land, however rest of land is Kahcharai (pasture/farm) land,

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WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)

Max: 33.6°C Min: 25.4°C

Humidity

Max : 93 Min : 70

Temperature (Srinagar)

Max: 32.0°C Min: 17.8°C

Humidity

Max : 71 Min: 43

Sunset : 18:34 Hours

Sunrise : 06:19 Hours