

3 killed, 6 injured in mishap

Excelsior Correspondent
 KATHUA, June 17: Three persons were killed while six others seriously injured when a Tata Sumo rolled down into deep gorge on Baggan-Katli road in tehsil Billawar of Kathua district

■ **Pic on page 4**
 today after the driver of the vehicle lost control on steering. Three persons died on spot, while six were seriously injured. The dead were identified as Rasa Singh, 50, son of Kashmir Chand, (Contd on page 4 Col 3)

Curfew relaxed for 4 hours in Bhandarwah

Excelsior Correspondent
 JAMMU, June 17: Curfew was relaxed for four hours in Bhandarwah town on ninth day of restrictions today amid deployment of additional paramilitary forces in view of Friday prayers.

Curfew was relaxed from 3 pm to 7 pm and restrictions passed off peacefully. People came out of their houses to purchase eatables. Markets were open and traffic plied nor- (Contd on page 4 Col 1)

IT raids on Kashmiri businessman, huge tax evasion found

Excelsior Correspondent
 SRINAGAR, June 17: The Income Tax Department has seized over Rs 46 lakh in cash during raids in the premises of a leading Pashmina and Kashmiri shawl manufacturer in Kashmir and Delhi.

The raids were launched on June 15 at 15 premises in Srinagar and Anantnag in Kashmir and New Delhi. The raids in Srinagar were conducted at Deewan Colony (Contd on page 4 Col 1)

JMC Corporator, husband arrested for accepting bribe

Excelsior Correspondent
 JAMMU, June 17: Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) today trapped and arrested Jyoti Devi, Corporator, Ward number 53 (Trikota Nagar) of Jammu Municipal Corporation and her husband Sham Lal while accepting bribe of Rs 10,000 for issuance of mulba clearance certificate.

Anti Corruption Bureau had received a complaint from a (Contd on page 4 Col 1)

China blocks India, US bid to declare Makki as terrorist

UNITED NATIONS/BEIJING, June 17: China has blocked a joint proposal by India and the US to designate Pakistan-based top LeT militant Abdul Rehman Makki as a global terrorist under the UN sanctions committee, a move Beijing's claimed were in accordance with the relevant procedures and rules.

Makki, a US-designated terrorist, is the brother-in-law of Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT) chief and 26/11 mas- (Contd on page 4 Col 5)

'Foreign conspiracy behind communal tension, targeted killings'

After ECI sets the ball rolling, Rajnath indicates Assembly polls in J&K

Sanjeev Pargal
 JAMMU, June 17: After Election Commission of India (ECI) setting the deadline of August 31 for publication of draft rolls, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh today dropped first direct indication of holding Assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir after completion of formalities.

"The delimitation exercise has been completed following which the number of seats has gone up to 90 with Kashmir having 47 seats and Jammu 43. There is a possibility of holding Assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir after exercise for the polls is over," he said

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while addressing a function here to celebrate the 200th year of the coronation of Maharaja Gulab Singh. The indication of Assembly polls by the Defence Minister comes just two days after the Election Commission initiated the revision of electoral rolls in the Union Territory and preparation of

Won't allow another displacement of any community in J&K now

Future and picture of UT changing at very fast speed



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Union MoS in PMO Dr Jitendra Singh, LG Manoj Sinha and Dr Karan Singh during Maharaja Gulab Singh's 200th Raj Tilak celebrations in Jammu on Friday. Another pic on page 3.

target killings by militants in Jammu and Kashmir. He asserted that the Central Government will not allow another forced

migration of any community from any part of the Union Territory.

He said Pakistan-occupied Jammu Kashmir (PoJK) along with Gilgit-Baltistan are illegally under the occupation of Pakistan which surprisingly is making a claim on the land despite knowing the fact that it was part of the empire of Maharaja Gulab Singh, the founder of Dogra rule.

"There are some forces in Jammu and Kashmir who have always tried to harm the social fabric and encouraged radicalisation. Recently, the attempts to fan communal hatred increased. The communal tension in Bhandarwah town (Doda district) is against our culture," the Minister said.

Singh, who reached Jammu on the second-leg of his two-day tour of Jammu and Kashmir, said no country can progress if its population is divided in communities. (Contd on page 4 Col 3)

Pak stays on FATF Grey List

NEW DELHI, June 17: Pakistan will continue to be on the "Grey List" of countries under increased monitoring of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), a statement from the global money laundering and terrorist financing watchdog said today.

The watchdog said the country may be removed from the list after an on-site visit to verify the (Contd on page 4 Col 3)

Justice with governance hallmark of Dogra rule: Dr Jitendra

Avtar Bhat
 JAMMU, June 17: Maintaining that justice with good governance was the hallmark of Dogra rule in Jammu and Kashmir, Union Minister, Dr Jitendra Singh today said that out of about 565 princely States in India, what distinguished the Dogra rulers was their vision to introduce several futuristic reforms and their knack to discover talent which later earned universal acclaim.

While speaking at a programme to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the coronation of the first Dogra ruler and founder of Princely State of J&K, Maharaja Gulab Singh here, Dr Jitendra Singh said that the main characteristic of all Dogra rulers right from

laid foundation of many educational institutions and hospitals.

The Minister while recalling the services of Maharaja Gulab Singh pointed out that he was personally delighted in contributing to the setting up of the first-ever statue of Maharaja Gulab Singh at the gateway entry point of Jammu & Kashmir in Lakhnagar, which happens to be part of his Lok Sabha Constituency.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, Dogra rulers established a justice driven governance model which created some of the best practices that are applicable even today. Looking ahead of their times, Dr Jitendra Singh said, the Dogra rulers set up the first two Degree Colleges in Jammu & Kashmir at a time when the only

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were not only benevolent but also great reformers as well. Dr Jitendra Singh, said adding they gave visionary and progressive leadership. He also highlighted their role in promoting education and health sector in the erstwhile Princely State and said that they (Contd on page 11 Col 5)

Enrolment process to start next week

Rly Stns, highways turn into battleground as protests continue against Agnipath

NEW DELHI/SECUNDERABAD/PATNA, June 17:

A man was shot dead in police firing in Telangana's Secunderabad, trains went up in flames, and public and private



Protesters set Farakka Express on fire during a protest against the 'Agnipath' scheme, at Danapur Railway Station in Patna on Friday. (UNI)

vehicles attacked, as railway stations and highways turned into battleground in many States today amid burgeoning protests against Agnipath, the contentious defence recruitment scheme.

Assurances by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Home Minister Amit Shah and the Army chief failed to cut ice with hordes of angry youth, carrying bamboo sticks and stones, storming railway premises across cities and

Two trains from Jammu cancelled

Excelsior Correspondent
 JAMMU, June 17: Railway authorities have cancelled two trains (13152 JAT-KOAA and 15654 JAT-GHY) from Jammu due to ongoing agitation over (Contd on page 11 Col 1)

cancelled so far due to the protests, the Railways said, reflecting the enormity of the agitation. (Contd on page 11 Col 1)

Court puts on hold new promotion policy of JK Bank

Excelsior Correspondent
 SRINAGAR, June 17: A local court here today restrained the J&K Bank in implementing the new promotion policy with the liberty to make the promotions in accordance with the previous promotion policy.

The All India J&K Bank Officers Federation through senior counsel Altaf Haqani has approached the court challenging the new promotion policy for promotion of Generalist and Specialist Officers of the bank.

The Officers Union alleged that the new promotion policy has been issued unilaterally and without taking on board the Union in total disregard to the past practice of notifying the policy only after the same is discussed and negotiated at threadbare with the Union. (Contd on page 4 Col 1)

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'Gulab Singh not given due by historians'

Dr Karan Singh for restoration of Statehood as early as possible

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, June 17: Former Sadar-e-Riyasat and Union Minister Dr Karan Singh today called for restoration of Statehood to Jammu and Kashmir as early as possible.

He raised the demand at two functions addressed today including the one organized at Hari Niwas on 200th Raj Tilak celebrations of Maharaja Gulab Singh and another at Jammu University during national seminar on 'Life and Legacy of Maharaja Gulab Singh'. "I have a complaint. The word Lieutenant should not be there in the designation of Manoj Sinha," Dr Karan Singh said.

In a Union Territory, there is a

Lieutenant Governor while the States have Governor.

"Dogra rulers especially Maharaja Gulab Singh played a major role in extending India's boundaries to China and Russia but the historians didn't do justice with him," Dr Karan Singh said.

"Jammu Kashmir was biggest State in India and today we have been not only reduced even less than

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Haryana and Himachal but also stripped off our Statehood and turned into a Union Territory, which is not appreciable," he said, while talking to media persons on the sidelines of concluding function of a three-day national seminar on 'Life and

Legacy of Maharaja Gulab Singh' at Jammu University today.

The seminar was organised by the Department of History, University of Jammu in collaboration with Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR), Jammu Kashmir Study Centre and Maharaja Gulab Singh Research Centre.

Dr Karan Singh was the chief guest during the valedictory function. Speaking on the occasion, he threw light on the Raj Tilak ceremony of Maharaja Gulab Singh by Sher-e-Punjab Maharaja Ranjit Singh on June 17, 1822 at Jia Pota in Akhnour.

He also focused on the consolidation of this region by Maharaja Gulab Singh and the hardships and (Contd on page 11 Col 5)

Admn making every effort to fulfill people's hopes

Separatism, corruption, dynastic rule oppressed people of J&K: LG

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, June 17: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha today said separatism, corruption and dynastic rule had oppressed the people of the Union Territory for over seven decades.

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi gave new direction by revoking Article 370 and relieved the people of its burden and opened the ways for their welfare. The coming times belong to one nation, one mission and one constitution," he said while addressing a function to mark 200th Raj Tilak celebrations of Maharaja Gulab Singh here.

He said efforts are on to make

the lives of the people comfortable without any discrimination.

"For 70 years after independence, we heard the difficulties and problems of a very large section in Jammu and Kashmir, which was largely burdened by separatism, corruption and rule of a limited number of families. On 5th August

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2019, Prime Minister Narendra Modi got us rid of that mismanagement and all kinds of helplessness in Jammu and Kashmir," Sinha said.

He said this is Jammu and Kashmir where 8-9 thousand projects were completed in a year by spending thousands of crores

before 2019. "We have completed 51,000 projects in the last financial year. This is the result of a fear-free and corruption-free system."

"By eliminating separatism, destroying the ecosystem of terrorism, today the administration is making every effort to fulfill the hopes and dreams of the common citizen. Jammu and Kashmir used to be at 13th and 14th place in terms of road construction in the country. Today we are at third place in the whole country. Earlier, in Jammu and Kashmir, 6 km of road was built daily, whereas today 20 km of road is being constructed every day. In 70 years, investment of only 15 thousand crore came in Jammu and (Contd on page 11 Col 7)

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