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## HM's visit rescheduled

Excelsior Correspondent  
JAMMU, Sept 27: Union Home Minister Amit Shah's visit to Jammu and Kashmir has been rescheduled from September 30-

\*Watch video on [www.excelsiornews.com](http://www.excelsiornews.com)

October 2 to October 3-5.

BJP UT chief Ravinder Raina told the Excelsior that Shah's new schedule is tentative. "We will receive the formal schedule shortly," Raina said.

No reasons have been given for delay in the visit.

However, Shah's tour itinerary include mega public rally at Rajouri on October 4 and at Baramulla on October 5.

## HC reserves judgment on Nadimarg massacre of KPs

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Sept 27: The High Court today reserved its verdict on the Nadimarg massacre in which 24 Kashmiri Pandits were killed in 2003.

The matter was partly heard by the court at the last hearing when the prosecution counsel argued the matter and today after hearing the counsel for accused persons, Justice V C Koul reserved its verdict.

(Contd on page 4 Col 3)

## 170 held in fresh crackdown on PFI

NEW DELHI, Sept 27:

More than 170 people allegedly linked with the Popular Front of India (PFI) were detained or arrested in raids across seven States today, five days after a similar pan India crackdown against the group often accused of being linked to radical Islam.

Conducted mostly by state police teams, the raids were spread across Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Gujarat, Delhi, Maharashtra, Assam and Madhya Pradesh.

On September 22, multi-agency teams spearheaded by

(Contd on page 4 Col 7)

## Asha Parekh to get Dada Saheb Phalke award

NEW DELHI, Sept 27:

Veteran actor Asha Parekh will be honoured with the Dada Saheb Phalke award for 2020, the highest recognition in the field of Indian cinema, Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting Anurag Thakur said today.

(Contd on page 4 Col 5)

## NASA spacecraft crashes into asteroid

WASHINGTON, Sept 27:

After flying in space for 10 months, a NASA spacecraft successfully crashed into an

asteroid today in a first-of-its-kind mission to test whether space rocks that might threaten Earth in the future could be

(Contd on page 4 Col 1)

■ Pic on page 4

## 'Situation fully under control, large number of militants killed'

# Not only theatres have reopened in Kashmir, students from across India studying there: Shah

Sanjeev Pargal

JAMMU, Sept 27: Union Home Minister Amit Shah said today that not only cinema halls have reopened in Kashmir but even students from across the country are going to study there as situation in the Valley is entirely under control.

Shah's comments in an interview to a national Hindi newspaper came ahead of his three-day visit to Jammu and Kashmir which has been rescheduled from September 30-October 2 to October 3-5.

"Not only the cinema halls have reopened in Kashmir but even IIM, IITs, All India Institutes of Medical Science (AIIMS) are being established there. Students from across the country are going to study there," Shah said.

After Independence, the highest number of tourists have visited Jammu and Kashmir during last three years, the Home Minister said.

"After abrogation of Article 370 of the Constitution of India, the militancy-related incidents

## People have faith in Govt, pvt investments pouring in

have come down. Many said that after annulment of special status, there will be bloodbath in the Kashmir valley but not even a stone was pelted," he added.

Asserting that situation is fully under control in Jammu and Kashmir, Shah said works are being done there fully for the local people.

He said a large number of militants have been killed in the Kashmir valley and glorification of slain militants has ended.

It may be mentioned here that during the current year, Army, Jammu and Kashmir Police and paramilitary forces have eliminated a large number of militants in the Valley including top commanders of many outfits and Pakistani nationals. The trend of crowd gathering during burial of the militants has also ended.

Referring to West Pakistani refugees, he said the displaced people were granted citizenship.

The West Pakistanis who had migrated here after partition in 1947 were denied citizenship by

successive Governments but after abrogation of special status of Jammu and Kashmir, they were granted citizenship rights.

Maintaining that people's faith has gone up in the Government, Shah said the elections were conducted to Block and District Councils.

"Temples have been given protection," he said.

Referring to private investments in industrial sector, the Home Minister said till 2019, investments were to the tune of only Rs 12,000 crore while from 2019 to 2022, Rs 32,000 crore worth investments have come in Jammu and Kashmir.

"Investments of Rs 12,000 crore in 70 years and Rs 32,000 crore in three years are a clear indication that people's faith in the system in Jammu and Kashmir has increased," Shah said.

It may be mentioned here that there has been huge rush of investments in Jammu and Kashmir by the private players from the country as well as

abroad. Several builders had also shown keen interest in investments here during a Summit organized in December last year.

Many more companies were also reported to have approached the Jammu and Kashmir administration showing interest in investment in different sectors in the Union Territory.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi had performed ground-breaking ceremony of Rs 38,080 crore worth investments in Jammu and Kashmir while addressing a massive rally at Pali Panchayat in Samba district of Jammu region on April 24.

The Government has already received Rs 20,000 crore worth more proposals for investments in the industrial sector which are expected to be cleared in next six months. These proposals were held up due to non-availability of Land Bank which is now being created by the administration.

## ACB books JES, others for fictitious bills

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Sept 27: Anticorruption Bureau Jammu has registered a case against Khalid Najeb Molvi (Village Level Worker), Tarun Gupta (JE), Shaqat Hussain (JE), Naseer Rashid (Gram Rozgar Sevak), Amit Kumar (Technical Assistant), Akhter Hussain (MPW), Tanveer Ahmad Shah (JE), Nelofer Akhter (VLW), Mansoor Hussain (VLW), Abdul Rehman (GRS), Ghulam Rasool Butt (retired MPW), Sajad Ahmed (the then GRS), Abdul Majid (the then MPW), Maroofa Begum (the then GRS), Fared Ahmed Natoo (the then VLW) and others for drawing of payments against fictitious bills for

(Contd on page 4 Col 3)



Suryakiran Aerobatic Team of the Indian Air Force (IAF) performs a spectacular show in the skies of Guwahati on Tuesday. (UNI)

## 'Need to educate people on issue' Art 370 was temporary provision that was put to rest: Jaishankar

WASHINGTON, Sept 27:

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar today called out the politics that was played out following the scrapping of Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir and explained how the facts were slanted and things were played up to shape a particular narrative.

He made these remarks during a book reading of 'Modi@20' in Washington DC.

Answering a question on the current understanding of US lawmakers on the Kashmir situation, he said, "There is big song and dance about the Internet being cut. If we have reached a stage where we say, an Internet cut is more dangerous than the loss of human life then what can I say?"

On August 5, 2019, the Central Government announced its decision to revoke the special status of Jammu and Kashmir (J-K) granted under Article 370 and split the region into two Union Territories.

During an interactive session in DC, the Minister said that Article 370, which gave special status to J-K, was a temporary provision of the Indian Constitution that was put to rest.



EAM S Jaishankar at a function in Washington on Tuesday.

"If you look at the Article 370 issue, what was a temporary provision of the Constitution was finally put to rest. This was supposed to be an act of majoritarian, now tell me what was happening in Kashmir was not majoritarian?" he asked.

Jaishankar argued that the facts concerning the scrapping of Article 370 are slanted and things have been played up. "I think the way facts are slanted and things are played up, what is right and what is wrong is confused, this is actually politics at work."

The External Affairs Minister said that the politics of Article 370 must be contested and people should be educated on this issue.

He said people should not let

this issue rest, but contest it and put the message out to shape the narrative. "This is a competitive world. We need to get our message out," he said.

"We are not serving our country well or our beliefs well or even our sense of right or wrong well by staying out of these debates. If we have opinions we must express them, we must share them with people and we must educate people on what is right and what is wrong," the Minister continued.

Referring to the scrapping of Article 370, the Minister said, "to me, it is mind-boggling, for something whose merit is so obvious, there should even be people who could think in a different way." (Agencies)

## 2 JeM militants killed in Kulgam encounter

Fayaz Bukhari

SRINAGAR, Sept 27: Two Jaish-e-Mohammad militants were killed in an encounter in Ahwato village of South Kashmir district of Kulgam today.



A security personnel at the site of encounter at Kulgam on Tuesday.

Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) Kashmir, Vijay Kumar, said that the two militants were trapped and they belong to JeM while both were locals.

He said both the militants were killed in the gun battle

and have been identified as Mohammad Shafi Gania of Batpora in Kulgam and Mohammad Asif Wani alias Yawar of Takiya Gopalpora in Kulgam.

Two AK-47 rifles were recovered from the encounter site.

This is the second encounter since yesterday in the district. Earlier yesterday, a Pakistani JeM commander Abu Hurairah, was killed in an encounter at Batpora area of Kulgam district. A soldier and two civilians were also injured during the encounter.

This month, seven militants were killed in South Kashmir in five encounters.

An official said that 142 militants have been killed this year including 34 foreigners.

## CS directs for speedy completion of Kishtwar-Khellani power line

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Sept 27: Chief Secretary Dr Arun Kumar Mehta chaired a review meeting of the power sector in Jammu & Kashmir at the Civil Secretariat today.

The Chief Secretary was informed about the status of 1.15 lakh smart meters being installed in Jammu and Srinagar cities in addition to the additional 6 lakh meters to be installed subsequently.

It was informed that 91% of the installed smart meters are already communicating and more than 64,000 of those meters have been billed by June 2022.

Dr Mehta said that J&K is being given utmost priority in installation of smart meters and

## Smart metering in Jammu, Sgr by March 2023



for completion of Kishtwar-Khellani power line to ensure robust power supply to district Kishtwar. He called for planning in terms of power procurement and management in view of the upcoming winter season to ensure quality power supply to the consumers and suggested hiring consultants in this regard as well.

Dr Mehta directed that feeders with the highest power losses must be identified and the officials responsible be held accountable.

He advised to follow a schedule for maintenance of transformers to minimise their breakdowns and to bring down the

(Contd on page 4 Col 1)

## More Trauma Centres after availability of specialist docs Govt considering creation of dedicated facilities for accident victims

Mohinder Verma

JAMMU, Sept 27: Government of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir is seriously considering creation of dedicated facilities in the existing hospitals particularly at the district level besides strengthening the already established Trauma Centres so as to provide timely and modern facilities to the accident victims during the crucial hours.

In a high-level meeting on road safety held on December 22, 2021, the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, while taking serious note of regular road accidents, had asked the Health Department to explore

the possibility of developing more Trauma Centres near accident-prone highways to help accident victims during the crucial hours.

Following the instructions of the Lieutenant Governor, detailed discussion was held in the Health Department on increasing the number of Trauma Centres from existing eight in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, official sources told EXCELSIOR, adding during the deliberations it came to the fore that opening more Trauma Centres strictly as per the guidelines of the Government of India is not possible at present because of sever-

al reasons. "There is acute shortage of Neurosurgeons and Radiologists particularly in Jammu province and posting of these specialists in each Trauma Centre is imperative in the light of the guidelines of the Government of India", they said. Moreover, each Level-2 Trauma Centre must have at least 100 manpower while as the same for Level 3 Trauma Hospital has been fixed at around 73 in the guidelines of the Government of India but at present posting such a manpower even in the existing Trauma Centres is not practically possible because of

shortage of doctors particularly specialists. Notwithstanding these constraints, the Government doesn't want to leave any stone unturned to provide best possible treatment to the accident victims as such Health Department is seriously considering creation of dedicated facilities in the existing hospitals along the Lakhampur-Jammu-Srinagar National Highway, sources informed.

They disclosed that Health Department is planning to establish dedicated Intensive Care Unit (ICU) with all the facilities as per the guidelines (Contd on page 4 Col 5)

## Comprehensive plan in place to deal with terror: DGP

All security arrangements made for HM's visit

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Sept 27: Amid a widespread crackdown on Popular Front of India (PFI), Director General of Police Dilbag Singh today said there is a comprehensive plan in place to deal with terror and anti-national elements in the country.

The police chief also said action against the terror network would definitely have a positive impact and there is no need to look at the country-wide

raids through a communal angle.

Singh was talking to reporters on the sidelines of an award distribution ceremony

\*Watch video on [www.excelsiornews.com](http://www.excelsiornews.com)

here.

Asked whether the J&K police is in touch with other security agencies involved in a country-wide crackdown on PFI

(Contd on page 4 Col 3)

following reports that the group was facilitating recruitment of youth in Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT) terror group, the DGP said since the national level agencies are dealing with it and the investigation is still on initial stages, he would not like to make any comment at this moment.

"There is a very comprehensive kind of plan in place to deal with the terror elements and also the elements who are anti-national. Any action against the terror networks will weaken such groups and will definitely have a positive impact," he said.

The DGP said the raids being carried out by NIA, whether in Jammu and Kashmir or outside, are based on inputs, evidence

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## Over 2 million tourists visited Kashmir, more expected in winters: Govt

Irfan Trambo

SRINAGAR, Sept 27: The Government today said that more than 2 million tourists have visited Kashmir so far this year and that they are expecting an increased fall of tourists during winters for which the necessary facilities are being enhanced.

Giving details about the arrival of tourists in Kashmir, Sarmad Hafeez, Secretary Tourism J&K, while talking to the reporters on the sidelines of the event that was held on the occasion of World Tourism Day, said that there has been no decline in the arrival of tourists and that so far, it has been wonderful for the tourism sector in

have. We are sure that a large number of tourists will also reach here in winters," he said.

Concerning the arrival of foreign tourists, he said that Kashmir is receiving foreigners more than any other part of India.

"Last year, there were no foreign tourists because there were no international flights and now the same has opened up and we are getting a good number of foreign tourists and in fact, we are getting more foreigners here than any other place in the country," he said.

He said that recently there was a conference in Dharamshala and the flavor of the conference was Kashmir, (Contd on page 4 Col 1)