

BLUE MOON
Banquets • Conventions

THE BANQUET WITH A DIFFERENCE

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J.K. PUBLIC SCHOOL
KUNJWANI, JAMMU
The School with a Difference

SOWING SKILLS

SHAPING INDIA

03 Dr Jitendra inaugurates Katra Navratri festival, expresses concern over drug menace

09 18 vehicles seized, 11 arrested for illegal extraction and transportation of minerals

10 28th State Billiards and Snooker Championship concludes

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

THIRD NAVRATRA

Maa Chandraghanta

Maa Chandraghanta is the third incarnation of Maa Durga and worshipped on third Navratra. Maa Chandraghanta has weapons in her hands. She rides on Tiger. This day has specific significance as on this day the soul of worshipper enters in "Manipur Chakra". By the blessings of this Devi one gets rid of enemies, bad souls and gets politeness & courage. Mantra to be recited nine times on this day is :-

"Om Kleeng Hareeng Aing Bhagwati Chandraghanta Mum Sarwam Bandhan Naashe Naashe Swaha"

ॐ क्लीं ह्रीं भगवती चन्द्रघटा मम सर्वम् बन्धन नाशय नाशय स्वाहा

J&K at forefront of development transformation in country: LG

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
ANANTNAG: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday said that with collective efforts to synergize strengths of different sectors, improving standards of living and seizing the vast opportunities in the industrial sector, Jammu and Kashmir is at the forefront of development transformation in the country.

"The prime goal of the Union Territory Administration is rapid economic growth integrated with speedier social development", the Lieutenant Governor said while inaugurating and laying foundation stone of various development projects worth around Rs 290 crore at Anantnag.

He congratulated the District Administration, public representatives and residents of the district on the occasion. "This is yet another milestone in

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9



LG Manoj Sinha inaugurating and laying foundation stone of various development projects at Anantnag on Monday.

Make 'Poshan Abhiyan' Jan-Andolan: Sinha

ANANTNAG: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday called for making 'Poshan Abhiyan' a Jan-Andolan in order to achieve improvement in key nutrition parameters.

Chairing the District Development Review meeting at Anantnag and taking appraisal of the progress of development projects, implementation of centrally-sponsored and UT sector schemes and saturation of welfare schemes in the District, Sinha said that success of 'Poshan Abhiyan' is based on people's participation.

He said the society should collectively act to generate awareness and work with District Administration for well being, growth and protection of mother and child. The Lt Governor commended the District Administration for its remarkable work in ensuring efficiency, transparency and reliability of public services. He directed other

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Amit Shah hails Navratri Puja at Sharda temple in Kashmir

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday lauded the Navratri puja held at the Sharda temple in Kashmir, where it was performed for the first time since 1947, saying it signified the return of peace in the valley.

The Home Minister said the puja at the temple marks the rekindling of the nation's spiritual and cultural flame under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

On Monday, Navratri Puja was held at the newly built Sharda temple located along the LoC in Teetwal in Kashmir. The temple was inaugurated by the home minister on March 23 this year on the same piece of land and on the same pattern where the temple existed in pre-partition days.

"It is a matter of profound spiritual significance that for the first time since 1947, the



Navratri pujas have been held in the historic Sharda Temple in Kashmir this year. "Earlier in the year the Chaitra Navratri Puja was observed and now the mantras of the Shardiya Navratri puja resound in the shrine. I was fortunate to reopen the temple on 23rd March 2023 after restoration," Shah said on X.

"This not only signifies the return of peace in the valley but also marks the rekindling of our nation's spiritual and cultural flame under the leadership of PM @narendramodi Ji," he added.

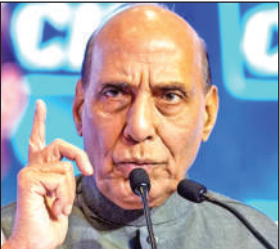
A large number of pilgrims from all over the country attended the puja. National television channel India TV reported that for the first time since independence, a Navratri puja was held at the historic Sharda Devi Temple close to the Line of Control in Teetwal village in Kupawara district of Jammu and Kashmir. The celebration was held on the first day of Sharad Navratri and this historic event drew a significant number of pilgrims from across the country. The ancient

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

No one can accuse Modi Govt of indulging in corruption: Rajnath

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
HYDERABAD: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Monday said no one can accuse the Prime Minister Narendra Modi government at the Centre of indulging in corruption.

Addressing an election rally at Maheswaram near here, he said the BJP earlier ran government in the country under the leadership of Atal Bihari Vajpayee and since 2014 under PM Modi. "But, I can say with confidence that no one, either in the country or the entire world, can point a finger and say that there is a taint of corruption on our Prime



Minister or the government." Singh claimed that some ministers in the previous UPA government led by Manmohan Singh had to go to jail on charges of graft.

Noting that corruption cannot be addressed by making speeches, the Union Minister said changes

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

CS launches DigiDost Toll-Free Number, Online Services, IT Policies

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Chief Secretary Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta, on Monday launched a slew of digital initiatives aimed at improving access to government services at Civil Secretariat.

The various initiatives launched include a Toll-Free Number- 1447, which aims to provide e-services at the doorstep of common public by paying a minimal fees prescribed by the Govt. DigiDost - a collaborative initiative of Information Technology Department and Community Service Centre (CSC) is a revolutionary step by which people can get the services delivered at their doorstep by calling on this toll free number.

Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta also launched ten new Online Services of multiple



CS A K Mehta launching DigiDost Toll-Free Number, Online Services, IT Policies on Monday.

departments, taking the total number of online e-services to 1065, which is the largest for any state /UT of the country.

Further, the three key IT policies for the Government of J&K: the E-mail Policy, PASSWORD Policy, and Policy

on the Use of IT Resources were also adopted. These policies aim to ensure the secure and efficient use of digital resources in government operations, with an emphasis on security and reliability.

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Father-son duo forge school certificate for Govt job in J&K

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: A father-son duo was booked for fraud and a chargesheet was produced in a court on Monday for allegedly prepared a false School Leaving Certificate (SLC) to get a government job in Jammu and Kashmir, an official said.

Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of the Crime Branch (CB) filed a chargesheet against Bashir Ahmed and his son Mukhtyar Ahmed of R S Pura for their alleged involvement in hatching a criminal conspiracy by preparing a fake SLC to get a government job in the Power Development

Department (PDD) of J&K, a CB spokesman said.

Brief facts of the case are that a written complaint was lodged by one Sarfaraz Ahmed, son of Bashir Ahmed of Village Sunderpur, Tehsil R.S Pura District Jammu where-in the complainant, after obtaining information from the Chief Education Officer Jammu under Right to Information Act- 2005, had alleged that the School Leaving Certificate issued in favour of accused Mukhtyar Ahmed, son of Bashir Ahmed in 1979, was not genuine and admission No.1311

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Hybrid terrorist arrested; arms & ammunition recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SHOPIAN: Police along with security forces arrested one hybrid terrorist and recovered arms and ammunition and other incriminating materials from his possession in Shopian.

As per details, a joint checkpoint was established by Shopian Police, Army (34RR), SOG PC Inamsahib and CRPF (178Bn), besides patrolling in Manihal, Aloora, DK Pora villages. During naka checking at Manihal Crossing, suspicious movement of one person coming towards naka point by foot was observed. While noticing the joint party, the suspected person tried to flee from the spot, but the alert party apprehended him tactfully. He has been identified as Bilal Ahmad Shah son of Miraq Shah resident of Vessu Qazigund.

During his search, 01 Pistol, one magazine, 14 live rounds, a mobile phone and other incriminating materials were recovered from

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 20.9°C Min: 19.2°C

Humidity
Max: 91 Min: 85

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 12.0°C Min: 8.2°C

Humidity
Max: 95 Min: 95

Sunset : 17:52 Hours
Sunrise : 06:23 Hours

Philosophy of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam prevailed over economic considerations at G20: Bhagwat

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
LUCKNOW: Uttar Pradesh government is making arrangements to provide uninterrupted power supply to people across the state during the upcoming festivals of Dussehra, Dhanteras, and Diwali, officials said here.

The power department has issued the necessary directives to concerned officers and the discoms to ensure uninterrupted power supply, a statement issued here said.

For the ongoing Navratri festival, stringent directives

have been issued to improve electricity supply across the state and to ensure that all areas receive electricity as



per the fixed schedule, it said.

Managing directors of discoms, chief engineers, and officials of the power corpo-

ration have been specifically instructed to ensure electricity supply to Shakti Peethas and religious places as per prescribed schedule during Navratri, said Ashish Kumar Goel, chairman of Uttar Pradesh Power Corporation.

Goel stressed on taking all necessary precautionary measures, particularly to fix hanging wires and cables.

"Address complaints related to voltage fluctuations and low voltage. In the event of unexpected power

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Union Minister expresses concern over drug menace in Reasi

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Union minister Jitendra Singh on Monday expressed deep concern over increasing drug addiction among the youth in Katra and Reasi areas of Jammu and Kashmir and appealed to the local administration to take immediate action against it.

The minister raised the matter during review meetings with the local authorities and law enforcement agencies.

"There is a need to focus on social issues and to do work on social reform. We get information about

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

SC to deliver verdict on pleas seeking legal validation for same-sex marriage today

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court is scheduled to deliver its much anticipated judgement on Tuesday on pleas seeking legal validation for same-sex marriage.

A five-judge constitution bench headed by Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud had on May 11 reserved its verdict on the pleas after a marathon hearing of 10 days.

The other members of the bench are Justices Sanjay Kishan Kaul, S Ravindra Bhat, Hima Kohli and P S

Narasimha. The judgement will be delivered on Tuesday and accordingly, the information



will be updated on the apex court website, sources said.

During the arguments, the Centre had told the apex court that any constitutional declaration made by it on the petitions seeking legal validation for same-sex marriage

may not be a "correct course of action" as the court will not be able to foresee, envisage, comprehend and deal with its fallout.

The Centre had also told the court it had received responses from seven states on the issue of same-sex marriage and the governments of Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh and Assam had opposed the petitioners' contention seeking legal endorsement for such wedlock. The apex court had commenced hearing

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Mughal road blocked due to snowfall, heavy rains in Jammu

Snow, rains bring mercury down in Kashmir



Rains lashes Jammu city on Monday while Mughal road receives fresh snowfall.

es are going on since Monday morning and will continue intermittently on Tuesday as well.

"The weather will improve from October 18 and is expected to remain fair till October 24. There is no major spell of precipitation till October 24," Deputy Director, India

Meteorological Department (IMD) Srinagar, Mukhtar Ahmad told PTI.

He said Gulmarg skiing resort, Peer ki Gali, Sinthan Pass, Gurez, Tulail, Sonamarg, the Zojila axis on the Srinagar-Leh National Highway and some places in the Union Territory of Ladakh have received light

snowfall.

"Snowfall is expected in these areas during the day as well but no major activity is foreseen in the plains," Ahmad said.

He said early snowfall has been happening in the Kashmir valley for the last three to four years now. "Last year, we had snowfall

in the last week of October, but there is no such prediction for this year. While light snowfall is expected in the higher reaches, there would not be much of an activity in the plains," he added.

The IMD said the farmers can resume harvesting activities in Kashmir from October 18 but travellers should exercise due caution while travelling on the highways passing through mountainous areas.

"Farmers can resume the harvesting activity from October 18, those travelling on the Srinagar-Jammu and Srinagar-Leh highways should avoid unnecessary travel and if it is inevitable, they should follow the traffic advisories and carry warm clothes along as a precaution," Ahmad said.

Sahil Iqbal, a local journalist, said the weather in Kashmir has taken a sudden turn and winter has arrived early.

"The MeT department had forecast wet weather and it has come true. People have taken to wearing warm clothes to beat the chill. The locals have started preparing for the coming winter, which is usually very harsh in Kashmir. People have started using kangri, bukhari and other heating gadgets to keep themselves warm. Winter has come earlier than usual. We would have this kind of weather in November but this year, it has arrived early," he said.

Padmini, a tourist from Andhra Pradesh, said

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9