

05 Dr Jitendra addresses Trainee Officers, emphasises capacity building at every level

05 Divisional Commissioner Jammu inaugurates Jammu Deepawali Mahotsav-2023

10 Jammu Sahodaya Athletics Meet (u-19) boys & girls 2023-24 begins

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LG calls for developing cities to meet challenges, aspirations of people

Srinagar Smart City role model for other cities of country



LG Manoj Sinha addressing gathering after inaugurating Smart Cities Mission's two-day National Workshop on 'Streets & Public Spaces' in Srinagar on Thursday.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Thursday called for developing cities to meet the challenges and the growing aspirations of the people.

"Cities must be flexible to respond to the needs of citizens, competition and changes in the market and

nurture core competencies for economic growth," the Lt Governor said while inaugurating two-day National Workshop of Smart Cities Mission on 'Streets & Public Spaces' in Srinagar.

He expressed gratitude to the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs for organizing the national workshop in

Srinagar and welcomed the Mayors, Municipal Commissioners, Chief Executive Officers and officers representing 100 Smart Cities to J&K for knowledge sharing and experiential learning through project visits of Srinagar Smart City.

Most important element of a city is its people. With

infrastructure and modern facilities, it is equally important to have vibrant public spaces to enhance aesthetics, ensure quality of life and bring positive change, solace in the lives of the citizens, the Lt Governor said.

"Srinagar Smart City is a role model for other cities of the country with impactful pedestrian plazas, recreational spaces by the water-fronts. One can feel the soul of this city with excellent urban design of streets and public spaces," he said.

At the inaugural session, the Lt Governor talked about various initiatives like Srinagar Square, beautification of Ghats to revive water transport, rejuvenation of lakefront, heritage conservation of Old City, beautification of under-utilized spaces making Srinagar a great inspiration for experts.

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Five Jr scale JKAS officers transferred

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The government on Thursday transferred five junior scale JKAS officers.

According to the order issued by Sanjeev Verma, Commissioner/Secretary, General Administration Department, Dr. Neha Sharma, Jr. Scale JKAS, Tehsildar (Hqr) with AIGR, Jammu, has been transferred and posted as Under Secretary in the J&K Services Selection

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Mehbooba Mufti re-elected PDP chief

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister and PDP leader Mehbooba Mufti was on Thursday unanimously re-elected president of the party for a three-year term.

People's Democratic Party (PDP) general secretary Ghulam Nabi Lone Hanjura proposed the name of Mehbooba for the post of president, which was

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5 LeT terrorists killed as SFs foil infiltration bid along LoC

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Five Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT) terrorists were killed on Thursday as security forces foiled an infiltration bid along the Line of Control (LoC) in Kupwara district.

A huge cache of arms and ammunition including five AK series rifles and other incriminating materials were recovered from the site of the gunfight in Machhil sector, officials said.

Additional Director General of Police Kashmir Vijay Kumar said five terrorists have been killed in the operation so far.

"Based on an intelligence input generated by Kupwara Police, an infiltration bid was successfully foiled in a joint operation launched by Police and Army along the Line of Control in Machhil sector of Kupwara district. In this swift and coordinated operation, five terrorists were neutralised," a police spokesperson said.



He said the joint party launched the operation during the intervening night of October 25-26 at Sardari Nar area along the LoC.

"Besides, multiple ambushes were laid by the joint teams along the LoC. Today, the joint team observed movement of terrorists in the thick dense forests of the area who taking advantage of difficult terrain infiltrated to our side. Employing meticulous tactics, the terrorists were intercepted who fired indiscriminately upon the joint team. The fire was

retaliated, leading to the elimination of five unidentified terrorists linked with proscribed terror outfit LeT," the spokesperson said.

He said the identification of the slain terrorists is being ascertained. "All the recovered materials have been taken into case records for further investigation. In this regard, Police have registered a case under relevant sections of law and investigation has been initiated. Extensive search of the area is being carried out

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EC will require around 30 lakh EVMs, 1.5-year preparation time for simultaneous polls to LS, assemblies

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: The Election Commission will require around 30 lakh electronic voting machines (EVMs) and a preparation time of nearly one-and-half years for the smooth conduct of simultaneous elections to the Lok Sabha and state assemblies, sources have said.

An EVM comprises one control unit, at least one ballot unit and one voter verifiable paper audit trail (VVPAT) unit.

According to the sources, the commission will require nearly 30 lakh control units, about 43 lakh ballot units and about 32 lakh VVPATs

for the simultaneous polls, taking into consideration the reserve units kept for replacement in case of any malfunction or damage.

Sources said there is a shortfall of nearly 35 lakh voting units -- control units, ballot units and VVPAT units -- for the simultaneous conduct of Lok Sabha and assembly polls.

As deliberations on the conduct of simultaneous polls gathered steam, the Election Commission had informed the Law Commission a few months ago that it would also require adequate warehousing facilities to store the

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Pakistani troops open fire in Arnaria sector, BSF retaliating 'befittingly'

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU/NEW DELHI: The Pakistan Rangers opened unprovoked firing at Indian posts along the International Border in the Arnaria sector in Jammu Thursday night, a senior BSF official said, adding that its troops were retaliating 'befittingly' to it.

The exchange of gunfire was underway till last reports came in, the official said.

According to reports, some BSF jawans were injured in the firing, but there was no official confirmation.

The firing by Pakistani troops started around 8 pm, the Border Security Force (BSF) said. "The firing is still on," the BSF said. The "unprovoked firing" is befittingly retaliated by BSF troops, it stated. Senior BSF officers were rushing to the spot, officials said.



Houses damaged in heavy firing by Pakistan in Arnaria sector on Thursday night.

There may be different communities, sects but religion of whole world is same: Bhagwat

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SAHARANPUR (UP): Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh chief Mohan Bhagwat on Thursday said there may be different communities and sects but the religion of the whole world is the same.

Bhagwat was addressing a 'bhoomi-puja' ceremony at the Shri Krishna temple in Sarsawan town of Saharanpur district.

"The religion of the whole world is the same. Religion has been described in

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1 killed, 3 injured as mud house collapses

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
POONCH/JAMMU: One person was killed and three injured when a mud house collapsed in Poonch district, officials said on Thursday.

The incident occurred in Gursai Mohri village past midnight, they said.

While Rayaz Hussain died while being taken to hospital, three others, including his wife, have been hospitalised, officials added.

WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 30.0°C Min: 14.3°C

Humidity
Max: 76 Min: 67

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 21.0°C Min: 3.7°C

Humidity
Max: 95 Min: 70

Sunset : 17:40 Hours
Sunrise : 06:38 Hours

J&K BJP celebrates Accession Day 'Vilay Diwas' with fervour

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) on Thursday celebrated 'Vilay Diwas', Accession Day of Jammu and Kashmir with fervor across the region.

The main programme, held at Maharaja Hari Singh Park, was addressed by BJP senior leaders, who also paid homage to Maharaja Hari Singh ji.

J&K BJP President Ravinder Raina, accompanied by party General Secretary (Org.) Ashok Koul, former MP Shamsheer Singh Manhas, former Dy. CM Kavinder Gupta, Amar



J&K BJP President Ravinder Raina and other senior leaders of party celebrating Accession Day in Jammu.

Kshatriya Rajput Sabha Chairman Narain Singh, party General Secretary Adv. Vibodh Gupta, Mayor JMC Rajinder Sharma, Maha Mandaleswar Mahant

Rameshwar Das ji Maharaj, Dy. Mayor Baldev Singh Billawaria, Vice-President Rajput Sabha Jagdish Singh, District

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Rashmi nominated In-charge Secy District Baramulla for monitoring works

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The government on Thursday nominated Dr. Administrative Secretary Rashmi Singh as In-charge Secretary for District Baramulla for monitoring development works and other related matters of the Districts.

"In partial modification of Government Order No. 844-JK(GAD) of 2023 dated July 13, 2023, Dr. Rashmi Singh, Secretary to the Government, Mining Department shall be In-charge for District Baramulla in place of Dr. Raghav Langer, IAS,"

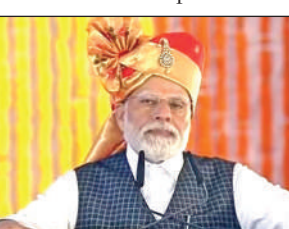
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Some people only did politics in name of farmers: Modi

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SHIRDI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said some people from Maharashtra only did politics in the name of farmers, comments aimed at Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) founder Sharad Pawar, who handled the agriculture portfolio during the UPA government.

Modi said his government was committed to farmer welfare and pointed out that cultivators are now getting MSP (minimum support price) money for their products directly into their bank accounts.

The PM was speaking at an event in the temple town of



Shirdi in western Maharashtra's Ahmednagar district after inaugurating several development projects.

"Some people in Maharashtra only did politics in the name of farmers. A senior leader of Maharashtra served as the country's agricul-

ture minister. I personally respect him, but what has he done for farmers?" Modi said, without naming Pawar.

The NCP founder served as the agriculture minister when the Congress-led UPA government was in office at the Centre (2004-14).

Modi said when Pawar was the Union agriculture minister, farmers had to be at the mercy of middlemen. "For months, farmers had to wait for their money. Our government gave MSP money directly into the bank accounts of farmers," he added.

New film policy, opening of cinema halls after 3 decades aims at reviving J&K's movie culture: LG

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Thursday said that several steps like a new film policy and operationalization of cinema halls in various districts after three decades have been taken to revive the golden days of Jammu and Kashmir's movie culture.

Presenting the second International Film Festival of Srinagar awards in various categories at a ceremony held Tagore Hall, the Lt Governor discussed the bond Jammu and Kashmir shared with the world of cinema and highlighted the efforts of the administration to create a vibrant film ecosystem in the Union Territory.

The second edition of TIFFS was dedicated to Dev Anand Sahib, an icon of Indian Cinema.

The Lt Governor congratulated the award winners and commended the efforts of 'Vomedh



LG Manoj Sinha during 2nd International Film Festival of Srinagar on Thursday.

Organization' for promoting theatre, culture, language and cinema in Jammu and Kashmir.

"Cinema connects people and brings them closer. Bollywood has made a special contribution to

strengthen diversity of our nation with the spirit of 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat'. It is a powerful medium to nourish social-cultural ethos and advance human values," the Lt Governor said.

Women empowerment pivotal for empowerment of J&K: Sinha

SRINAGAR: Observing that empowerment of women is pivotal for the empowerment of Jammu and Kashmir, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Thursday said that in the last few years, the UT Administration has given priority to women empowerment based on the principles of equality, equal rights and equal opportunities as enshrined in the Constitution.

"I am proud to say that half of our population has made an immense contribution in the prosperity and growth of the UT, Sinha said at a function organised by Chinara Corps to honour the

women achievers of Kashmir Division.

In his address, the Lt Governor congratulated all the women achievers who have carved a niche for themselves and inspiring other women to dream and accomplish new heights of success in various fields.

He lauded the noble initiative of Chinara Corps to empower Nari Shakti and acknowledging their contribution in nation building.

The Lt Governor highlighted several schemes and programmes being implemented in J&K, under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, which are intend-

ed for holistic empowerment of women and realizing their full potential.

We have taken several steps through Schemes of NRLM, Mission Youth, JKTPPO, Industry & Commerce for the speedy economic empowerment of women in urban and rural areas, he added.

In academics, our daughters are scripting new history and charting a new future with new confidence and a sense of self-esteem, the Lt Governor said. On the occasion, Women Achievers were felicitated by the Lt Governor for their extraordinary contribution in diverse

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ours to popularize the film festivals and other such activities in the UT of J&K

Remembering the significant contribution of Dev Anand to the film industry, ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9