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03 Dr Jitendra chairs joint Ministerial meeting, calls for breaking silos

03 3-day Basohli Utsav begins; presents region's unique cultural heritage

10 JK Public School Kunjwani holds enthralling Annual Aquatic Meet

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NINTH NAVRATRA

Maa Sidhidhatri

Ninth incarnation of Maa Durga, Maa 'Sidhidhatri' can bless one with all the 'Siddhis'. According to Puranas even Bhagwan Shiv got Siddhis by virtue of Maa Sidhidhatri and his body was converted into 'Ardha Narishwar'. The ride of Maa is Lion and she is on lotus. Her four hands have Chakra, Gadha, Shankha and Lotus.

By her blessings one gets heaven after enjoying all pleasures of life. Mantra to be recited nine times is :-

"Om Aing Hreeng Kleeng Chamunday Vichai Bhagwati Sidhidhatri Mum Sarvam Sarv Sidhim Parikalapay Parikalapay Swaha"

ॐ ऐं ह्रीं क्लीं चामुण्डयै विच्चे
भगवती सिद्धिदात्री मम सर्वम् सर्वं
सिद्धिं परिकल्पये परिकल्पये स्वाहा

Omar elected leader of NC legislature party; set to be Chief Minister



NC Senior leaders, Farooq and Omar Abdullah chairing legislature party meeting at Srinagar.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir National Conference on Thursday unanimously elected Omar Abdullah as the leader of its Legislative Party.

Soon after the legislature party meeting, Omar Abdullah thanked the National Conference for electing him their leader so that he can stake claim to form the government in Jammu and Kashmir.

"You are aware of the decision that was taken. A meeting of the NC legislature party took place, the legisla-

CLP to meet today at Srinagar
JAMMU/ SRINAGAR: Congress Legislature Party (CLP) shall meet tomorrow afternoon at Srinagar.

According to an official spokesperson of the party, the MLAs of the Congress party shall meet tomorrow afternoon in Srinagar, under the chairmanship of PCC Chief Tariq Hameed Karra, to elect the Leader of Congress Legislature party.

The name shall be finally approved and announced by the party high command, which shall pave the way for further process of extending letter of support for the formation of the government, he added.

ture party has decided its leader and I am thankful from the bottom of my heart to the NC legislators that they have reposed their faith in me and given me a chance to stake claim for government formation," Abdullah told reporters after he was elected the leader of the legis-

lature party here.

He said four of the seven Independent MLAs have extended support to the National Conference, taking the party's strength to 46.

"Talks are on with the Congress. They have been given a day to decide. Once they give us a letter of support, I will stake claim for government formation," Abdullah said.

Omar Abdullah had earlier asserted that whenever a government is formed in Jammu and Kashmir, it should pass a resolution and begin talks with the Union government to restore the region's statehood.

"Once the government is formed, it should pass a resolution and then engage in talks with the Prime Minister, Home Minister, and other ministers in Delhi," he said.

He further emphasised that they would make every effort to work harmoniously with the Lieutenant

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LG chairs 35th University Council Meeting of SKUAST Kashmir



LG Manoj Sinha chairing 35th University Council Meeting of SKUAST Kashmir on Thursday.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha chaired the 35th University Council Meeting of SKUAST Kashmir, at Raj Bhawan on Thursday.

The meeting was attended by Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to Lt Governor; Atal Duloo, Chief Secretary; Shailendra Kumar, Principal Secretary, Agriculture Production Department; Santosh D Vaidya, Principal Secretary, Finance Department; Dr Ashok

Dalwai, former CEO NRAA; Prof. RC Agrawal, DDG, ICAR; Dr Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lt Governor; Dr. Nazir A. Ganai, Vice Chancellor, SKUAST Kashmir; Dr. BN Tripathi, Vice Chancellor, SKUAST Jammu; Dr. Shahid Iqbal Choudhary, Secretary, Planning, Dr. T. H. Masoodi, Registrar, SKUAST-Kashmir and other senior officers, in person and through virtual mode.

The University Council dis-

cussed important policy matters and gave in-principle approvals to various agenda points for overall development and administrative functioning of the University.

The Lt Governor emphasised the need to have university's own Seed Centre for distribution of the quality seed to farmers. He also advised the University to strengthen outreach programmes so that new innovations and technologies could reach to the farmers.

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Three IAS, IFS officers get Addl Charge

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Government of Jammu & Kashmir led by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Thursday assigned additional charges to four senior officers in the administration.

As per order issued by Sanjeev Verma, Commissioner Secretary, General Administration Department, Shaleen Kabra, IAS, Financial Commissioner (Additional Chief Secretary), Jal Shakti Department (Additional charge of Financial Commissioner Revenue) shall hold the charge of the post of Administrative Secretary, Estates Department; Dheeraj Gupta, IAS,

Financial Commissioner (Additional Chief Secretary), Department of Forest, Ecology and Environment, shall hold the charge of the post of Administrative Secretary, Information Technology Department; Suresh Kumar Gupta, IFS, Principal Secretary, Culture Department, shall hold the charge of the post of Administrative Secretary, School Education Department; and Dr Rashmi Singh, IAS, Commissioner/ Secretary, Hospitality & Protocol Department (Additional Charge of Principal Resident Commissioner, J&K Government,

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Not a single corruption charge against Modi Govt in 10 years: Shah

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: There has not been a single corruption charge in the last 10 years against the Modi government which ended policy paralysis and transformed India from one of the "Fragile Five" economies to a "bright spot", Union Home Minister Amit Shah said on Thursday.

Addressing the annual session of the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry here, Shah said by 2047, due to the "remarkable" initiatives taken by the Modi government, India will emerge as one of the most developed countries in the world.

He said ever since Prime



Minister Narendra Modi assumed charge in 2014, the government has brought reforms in various sectors resulting in infrastructure upgradation, improved connectivity, digital economy,

the country. During this period, not a single corruption charge has been levelled against our government. This was acknowledged even by the opposition," he said at the session on 'Developed India @2047: Marching Towards the Peak of Progress'.

The home minister said in the last 10 years, the Modi government buried terrorism, Left-wing extremism and northeast insurgency "200 yards deep into the ground".

He said when Modi took charge, there was a "policy paralysis" which was

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GoC visits forward areas in Rajouri, reviews operational preparedness

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: A senior Army officer on Thursday visited the hinterland areas in Rajouri district and reviewed the security situation and operational preparedness of the troops deployed on ground zero.

General Officer Commanding of the Army's 16 Corps, Lieutenant General Navin Sachdeva, along with GoC Counter insurgency force Romeo visited Dera Ki Gali in Rajouri to review the security and operational preparedness for counter insurgency operations in the area, the White Knight Corps said on X.

The officer appreciated the spirit of the troops and their unwavering commitment and dedication towards counter insurgency operations.

Lieutenant General Navin Sachdeva along with the GoC Crossed Swords Division visited the forward areas of Pallanwala and Akhnoor in Jammu district earlier on Wednesday to review the operational preparedness, it said.

The GoC appreciated the spirit of the troops and their unwavering commitment towards maintaining very strong and unbreachable anti-infiltration grid.

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CEO submits Notification of elected members of LA to LG

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Pandurang K. Pole, Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) J&K accompanied by Pramod Kumar Sharma, Principal Secretary, Election Commission of India; Manzoor Ahmad Bhat, Special Secretary and Anil Salgotra, Joint CEO in Chief Electoral Office, J&K met the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhawan on Thursday.

A copy of the Notification issued by the Election Commission of India, in pursuance of Section 73 of the Representation of People Act 1951 (43 of 1951), containing the names of the Members elected to the Legislative Assembly of Jammu and Kashmir following the polls, was submitted by them to the Lieutenant Governor.

The Lieutenant Governor congratulated Pandurang Pole, Chief Electoral Officer, UT of J&K on the

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Ratan Tata cremated with full state honours in Mumbai

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
MUMBAI: The final rites of renowned industrialist and philanthropist Ratan Tata were performed with full state honours at a central Mumbai crematorium on Thursday evening.

The Mumbai police paid tribute to Tata with a gun salute.

The industry titan's family members, including the half-brother Noel Tata, and top executives from the Tata Group like chairman N Chandrasekaran, were present at the crematorium in Worli.

Union Home Minister Amit



Shah, his cabinet colleague Piyush Goyal, Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, his deputy Devendra Fadnis, Congress leader and former CM Sushilkumar Shinde, among others, were also present.

The last rites were performed as per the Parsi tradition, one of the priests present at the crematorium said.

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LG greets people on Durga Puja

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: The Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has extended his greetings and best wishes to the people on the eve of Durga Puja.

In a message, the Lieutenant Governor has said: "On the auspicious occasion of Durga Puja, I convey my warm greetings and felicitations to all. Durga Puja represents the triumph of good over evil and marks the hope of a bright future. Maa Durga is epitome of Shakti. Let us pray that Maa Durga guides us on the path of righteousness so that we can lead a pious,

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ED attaches assets worth over Rs 3 Cr of ex-Branch Manager of J&K Grameen Bank in fraud case

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: The ED on Thursday said it has attached assets worth Rs 3.40 crore of a former Jammu and Kashmir Grameen Bank (JKGB) branch manager, his family members and some others in a case linked to alleged fraud with the lender.

A provisional order was issued under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) against former bank official Ishtiyaq Ahmad Parray, (a resident of Tangbagh, Khayam, Srinagar), Tariq Ali Parray, Haseena Bano and Maqsood

Ali Parray to freeze their properties located in Srinagar and a flat in Delhi's Zakir Nagar area, the agency said in a statement.

The money laundering case stems from a charge sheet filed by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) against Ishtiyaq and 10 others for "embezzlement" of funds to the tune of Rs 6.30 crore by fraudulently sanctioning various types of loans to non-existent borrowers.

According to the ED, while Ishtiyaq was posted as branch manager at JKGB Mirgund, Pattan and Khanpet between 2014 and

2019, he "fraudulently" sanctioned 107 Kisan Credit Card loans, 50 joint liability group loans, 17 vehicle loans, four cash credit loans and two easy finance loans.

He sanctioned these loans worth Rs 6.30 crore for 180 mule accounts, which later turned into non-performing assets (NPAs), it said.

"The loans so sanctioned were subsequently transferred into the bank accounts of several mule account holders who were his known persons like drivers, daily wage workers, etc." Thereafter, these amounts were

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J&K LSA holds awareness prog on 'Importance of Mental Health in Professional Efficiency' at JU

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: In a significant event commemorating "World Mental Health Day, 2024", the J&K Legal Services Authority in collaboration with the Department of Law, University of Jammu, on Thursday organized an awareness programme on the Importance of Mental Health in Professional Efficiency at General Zorawar Singh Auditorium, University of Jammu.

Chief Justice, High Court of J&K and Ladakh and Patron-in-Chief, J&K Legal Services Authority, Justice Tashi Rabstan, presided over the event which was attended by nearly 700 law students, faculty members and legal professionals.

The Chief Justice, who was accompanied by M. K. Sharma, Principal Secretary and Amit Kumar Gupta,



Chief Justice Tashi Rabstan presiding over the event at Jammu University on Thursday.

Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority, was warmly received by Prof. Meena Sharma, Officiating Vice-Chancellor and Dean of Planning, University of Jammu,

Prof. (Dr.) Manju Jamwal, Head, Department of Law, University of Jammu, along with other HoDs and faculty members.

Addressing a large gathering of law

students and faculty members of law department and School of Law, the Chief Justice appreciated the eminent resource persons for their collective efforts in promoting mental well-being within the legal fraternity. He emphasized that maintaining good mental health is not only a personal responsibility but also a professional necessity, particularly in high-pressure fields like law and the judiciary.

Highlighting the importance of self-care in preventing burnout and ensuring long-term well-being, the Chief Justice remarked "The mantra for healthy mental health is to spare time for yourself,". He cautioned about the potential dangers of technology, stating that while it offers immense benefits, its misuse can be detrimental to mental health.

Furthermore,

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Delhi HC tribunal confirms ban imposed on JeI

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: A Delhi High Court tribunal has validated the ban imposed on Jamaat-e-Islami, Jammu & Kashmir for its alleged involvement in activities which are prejudicial to internal security and public order, having the potential to disrupt the unity and integrity of the country.

A few members of the group, which was banned for five more years in February, had contested the recently concluded assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir. This led to speculation that the ban imposed on Jamaat-e-Islami (JeI), Jammu & Kashmir under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, (UAPA) 1967 might be with-

drawn by the government.

While declaring the group outlawed, the home ministry had listed 47 cases registered against it. They included an NIA case for collection of funds and encouragement to violent and secessionist activities.

The funds were also used by the active cadres and members of Hizb-ul-Mujahideen, Lashkar-e-Taiba and other terrorist organisations through a well-established network of their cadres to organise violent protests, create public unrest and communal disharmony, thus instilling a sense of fear and insecurity in J&K and all over the country, the

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WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)

Max: 31.4°C Min: 17.2°C

Humidity

Max: 74 Min: 45

Temperature (Srinagar)

Max: 24.3°C Min: 7.3°C

Humidity

Max: 94 Min: 40

Sunset : 18:04 Hours

Sunrise : 06:30 Hours