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STATE TIMES

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03 Shat Chandi Yagya concludes with spiritual fervour at Vaishno Devi Shrine

09 NCP leader Baba Siddiqui shot dead in Mumbai, two held

10 Ranji Trophy Elite Group-A match: Khajuria scripts history for J&K, slams double ton; Shivansh scores century as J&K declares at 519/7

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

Rajnath dedicates to nation 75 BRO infra projects across 11 States, UTs Connectivity in J&K, especially in strategic areas, transformed: LG



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh virtually dedicating BRO infrastructure projects to the nation. LG Manoj Sinha also attending the ceremony.

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh, on Saturday virtually dedicated to the nation 75 infrastructure projects of Border Roads Organisation (BRO) at a cost of Rs 2,236 crore. Of these, 19 are in Jammu & Kashmir.

In his address, Raksha Mantri termed the projects as a testament to the Government's unwavering resolve to keep strengthening the border infrastructure and ensuring socio-economic progress of these areas.

The Lieutenant Governor, J&K, Manoj Sinha expressed his heartfelt gratitude to

Expresses gratitude to PM DM for 19 new roads, bridges under BEACON & SAMPARK in J&K

Infrastructures are strategically vital for Army, Civil Admin; will prove to be economic lifeline for people in far-flung areas

Prime Minister, Narendra Modi and Raksha Mantri, Rajnath Singh; BRO, BEACON, SAMPARK and everyone associated with the construction of the important roads and bridges in the Union Territory of Jammu Kashmir.

These infrastructures are strategically vital for both the Army and Civil Administration and will prove to be an economic lifeline for the people in far-flung areas, he said.

"In the last few years, the road infrastructure and connectivity in Jammu Kashmir, especially in areas of strategic importance have been transformed. This reflects the commitment of Prime Minister Narendra Modi towards inclusive and equitable development across Jammu Kashmir and ensuring 'last mile connectivity'," the Lt Governor said. The Lt Governor said the much-awaited road and

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Hindus need to be united: Bhagwat

Expresses satisfaction over peaceful polls in J&K

STATE TIMES NEWS
NAGPUR: RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat on Saturday said India has become stronger and more respected in the world with enhanced credibility in the last few years but sinister conspiracies are testing the country's resolve.

Attempts to disturb and destabilise the country seem to be gaining momentum from all directions, while a narrative is being spread in Bangladesh to portray India as a threat, he said.

Addressing the annual Vijayadashmi rally of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) in Nagpur, Bhagwat also criticised "cultural Marxists and woke" people, accusing them of undermining education and culture, promoting conflict, and disrupting social cohesion.

Bhagwat also expressed concern over the impact of modern technology and media on children,

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RSS dedicated to serving country: Modi
NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said the RSS is dedicated to serving the country as he extended his wishes to its volunteers on the historic milestone in the organisation's continuous journey as it enters its hundredth year.

In a post on X, Modi shared the link of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat's annual Vijayadashmi address made earlier in the day, calling it a must-listen.

Lauding the Hindutva outfit, Modi, a former RSS pracharak before he was drafted into the BJP, said its resolve for and dedication towards 'Maa Bharti' inspires every generation and will infuse new energy in realising the goal of a 'Viksit Bharat'. The RSS, which was formed in 1925, is considered the ideological mentor of the BJP, and its volunteers have played a key role in its

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Interstate drug racket busted in Anantnag, 3 held

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: An interstate drug racket was busted in Anantnag district and three people were arrested, police said on Saturday.

Acting on credible input about a consignment of narcotic drugs being transported from Delhi to Srinagar, police in Anantnag established multiple checkpoints along the route, a police spokesman said.

During checking, a vehicle was intercepted at Doonipora Bijbehra, with three persons onboard, the spokesman said.

They were identified as Monty Singh, a resident of

Uttar Pradesh, and Ashish Bardawaj and Rahul -- both residents of Chhatarpur, New Delhi.

During the search, police recovered 413 bottles of Codeine Phosphate concealed in the car's door panels, he said.

The three accused have been arrested and shifted to Bijbehra Police Station where they are in custody, the spokesman added.

Further investigation revealed that the consignment was reportedly intended for delivery in Sopore and Srinagar. Acting swiftly, multiple raids were conducted,

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Delay in swearing-in of new Govt due to need to follow procedures: Omar

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Chief Minister-designate Omar Abdullah on Saturday said the delay in the swearing-in of the new government in Jammu and Kashmir was due to the need to follow the procedures for revoking the President's Rule in the Union Territory.

"There is a procedure. There has been the President's Rule here for the last six years. A Cabinet note is needed to end the President's Rule which has to be sent to the Rashtrapati Bhavan, which then goes to the home ministry.

"Then there were holidays --" today it was Dussehra and tomorrow it is Sunday. God willing, if all these procedures are completed on Monday, then we will make our preparations on Tuesday and then God willing, we will take oath on



Wednesday," Abdullah said.

He was talking to reporters after watching a match of the Legends League Cricket here. When asked why there was a delay in government formation in the age of technology, Abdullah said government formation has nothing to do with technology. "We tried to form the govern-

ment once through a fax machine, but the fax machine did not work. If you want to make our government through a fax machine, then we are in trouble. Please keep technology at your office, we will do it in our own way," he said referring to the claim for government formation by the NC, PDP and Congress in 2018.

On the cricket league in Srinagar, the NC leader said it is good to watch cricket matches under lights in the city.

Abdullah, whose current favourite cricketer is Virat Kohli, said his government would want to host cricket matches, including the IPL. "We want them to happen and we have to revamp our infrastructure for that. "We have to increase infrastructure at our cricket stadium. Then we can request the BCCI to hold matches here," he added.

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Over 70 pc of 90 newly-elected MLAs in J&K graduates

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: More than 70 per cent of the 90 MLAs elected to the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly have declared their minimum educational qualification as their highest educational qualification as graduates, including three who hold doctorate degrees.

According to data compiled by NGO Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR), all three doctorate degree holders who emerged victorious in the recently-held Assembly polls belong to the BJP, which also has six graduates with professional degrees and four post-graduate MLAs.

The National Conference (NC), which emerged as the single-largest party in the polls with 42 seats, has 16 graduates with professional degrees and five post-graduates in their legislature party. While eight MLAs from the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) have declared matriculation as their highest educational qualification, the number of such MLAs in the NC is just one. The BJP has two MLAs who have not passed the Class-10 examination while there is one NC legislator in this category.

The BJP has four MLAs who have passed the Class-12 examination while

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Three held for thefts at religious places

STATE TIMES NEWS
KISHTWAR: Three persons were arrested for their alleged involvement in a series of thefts at multiple religious places in Kishtwar district, police said on Saturday.

The stolen property has also been recovered from the possession of the arrested accused, they added.

The donation boxes kept at four mosques and two temples were stolen in the intervening night of September 20 and September 21 from different villages of remote Dachhan, a police spokesman said.

On receiving the information, police lodged a case under the relevant legal provisions, the spokesman said, adding that a special investigation team (SIT) busted the gang behind the thefts and arrested the three culprits.

The spokesman said the stolen property, along with tools used to break open the cash chests, were recovered from the arrested individuals.

1st priority for new J&K Govt would be uniting people of Jammu, Kashmir: Farooq

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: National Conference (NC) president Farooq Abdullah on Saturday said the first priority for the new government in Jammu and Kashmir would be to unite the people of the two regions of the Union Territory and get rid of the "hatred" that was "pushed" in the recently-held Assembly polls.

He also said restoration of Jammu and Kashmir's state-

hood would be on the new government's agenda, and remove the hatred that was pushed in this election," Abdullah told reporters after participating in the Dussehra celebrations here.

The NC-Congress alliance has staked claim to form the government in Jammu and Kashmir after securing a clear majority in the polls.

"Our first priority will be to unite Jammu and Kashmir

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MP Rashid, delegations meet LG

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Abdul Rashid Sheikh, Member of Parliament, on Saturday called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhawan.

The Member of Parliament apprised the Lt Governor of various developmental and civic issues of Baramulla Parliamentary Constituency.

Subsequently, G M Shaheen, President, J&K Janta Dal United (JDU) also called on the Lieutenant Governor and put forth

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Jaishankar, 7 PMs to attend SCO meet at Islamabad

STATE TIMES NEWS
ISLAMABAD: External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and prime ministers of China and Russia among others will attend the two-days SCO Council of Heads of Government meeting here next week to discuss the ongoing cooperation in economy, trade and environment, Pakistan said on Saturday.

Pakistan is hosting the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Council of Heads of Government (CHG) meeting on October 15 and 16 and in his capacity as the current Chair of the CHG, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif will preside over the summit, the Foreign Office (FO) said in a statement.

"SCO member States will be represented by the Prime Ministers of China, Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan as well as the First Vice President of Iran and External Affairs Minister of India," it said.

The CHG meeting will discuss ongoing cooperation in

the fields of economy, trade, environment, socio-cultural linkages and review the performance of the Organisation. The leaders will adopt important organisational decisions to further enhance cooperation among the SCO member States and approve the budget of the Organisation, it added.

Announcing the level of participation for the 23rd meeting of the CHG, the FO statement further said that the Prime Minister of Mongolia will attend

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WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 32.3°C Min: 18.4°C

Humidity
Max: 77 Min: 60

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 26.8°C Min: 7.0°C

Humidity
Max: 67 Min: 48

Sunset : 18:01 Hours
Sunrise : 06:32 Hours

Dussehra celebrated with religious fervour in J&K

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Marking the victory of righteousness over evil, Dussehra was celebrated across entire Jammu region on Saturday with effigies of Ravana along with Kumbhakarna and Meghnath going up in flames, bringing the curtains down on nine day long Ram Lila, performed every night at several places depicting Ramayan (from the birth of Lord Rama to the end of Ravana). Member of Parliament Jugal Kishore Sharma was the chief guest while BJP Working President Sat Sharma, Ex-Mayor Rajinder Sharma were also present.

Huge effigies of Ravana, his brother Kumbhakarna and brother Meghnath (also known as Inderjeet), symbolising the evils, whose end by Lord Rama and his 'sena' led by Veer Hanuman and Sugreev is celebrated every year as Dussehra, went up in flames as at the stroke in the



Victory of good over evil: Effigy of Ravana set on fire in Jammu on Saturday.

presence of hundreds of people at Parade Ground in the heart of City.

Earlier, Shri Sanatan Dharam Sabha Natak Samaj Deevan Mandir and Shri Raghunath Ji Mandir Rath reached the venue after performing Puja.

Fire laden arrows were fired in a traditional manner by the youth who acted Lord Rama in Ram Lila on the three evils, sending their effigies, specially erected by the artists from Uttar Pradesh over a period of one month, in flames with the bursting of crackers.

A huge crowd spread over sprawling lawns of Parade Ground, adjoining Sports Club, Police Control Room and roof tops of all houses, shops and business establishments cheered as the three effigies were burnt and sound of crackers rocked the entire City.

All roads leading to Parade Ground had been closed by

the police well before the start of function. Still, hundreds of people travelled to the Ground to watch the victory of truth over evil. Before the 'jhanki' with persons acting as Lord Rama, Lakshman, Sita Mata and Veer Hanuman entered the Parade Ground, it was taken out in different parts of the City.

The main attraction of the day was the function organised at the parade ground. People thronged the venue to watch the effigies of Ravana, Meghnada and Kumbhakarna go up in flames. Many could be seen sitting on top of the vehicles parked near the venue to get a better glimpse of the celebrations. Some of them had also climbed trees.

Extraordinary fireworks were displayed this time at the function.

A similar huge gathering watched the end of

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