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# STATE TIMES

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**10 3rd South Kashmir Volleyball Championship gets underway**

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## Omar meets Modi, hands over resolution on statehood to J&K



Chief Minister Omar Abdullah meeting PM Narendra Modi at New Delhi on Thursday.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NEW DELHI: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, who is on his first official visit to Delhi after assuming office, called on Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday and handed over to him a resolution seeking early restoration of statehood to the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said.

The meeting lasted over 30 minutes during which Abdullah discussed various issues related to Jammu and Kashmir, including the present security situation and development works. He also presented a traditional Kashmiri shawl to the Prime Minister, they said. Abdullah also handed over the resolution passed by his cabinet last week urging the

central government to restore Jammu and Kashmir's statehood "in its original form", according to the officials. The resolution was passed by the new government in its first cabinet meeting last week after Abdullah's National Conference registered a remarkable victory in the maiden assembly polls in the union territory, bagging

42 of the 90 seats. This restoration, according to the officials, is seen as a crucial step towards initiating a healing process, reinstating constitutional rights and safeguarding the unique identity of the region's residents. The chief minister has been authorised by the cabinet to engage with the prime minister and the central government to advocate for the reinstatement of Jammu and Kashmir's statehood. This resolution was also approved by Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha. Abdullah's meeting with Modi comes four days after terrorists of banned Lashkar-e-Taiba gunned down seven people, including a local doctor, in Ganderbal district's Gagangir on Sunday. Earlier in the day, Abdullah met Union Minister

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## Aadhaar card not valid document to determine age: SC

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Thursday set aside an order of the Punjab and Haryana High Court which had accepted Aadhaar card for determining the age of a road accident victim to grant compensation. A bench comprising Justices Sanjay Karol and Ujjal Bhuyan, therefore, said the age of the deceased had to be determined from the date of birth mentioned in the school leaving certificate under Section 94 of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015. "We find that the Unique Identification Authority of India, by way of its circular number 8 of 2023, has stated, in reference to an office memorandum issued by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology dated December 20, 2018, that an Aadhaar Card, while can be used to establish identity, is not per se proof

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## 2 Army porters martyred, 3 soldiers among 4 injured in terror attack in Gulmarg

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: Two porters working with the Army were martyred on Thursday while four people, including three soldiers, were injured as terrorists attacked a vehicle of the force six kilometres from tourist hotspot Gulmarg in north Kashmir, officials said here. They said the terrorists opened fire on the Army vehicle in the Bota Pathri area in the evening, when it was headed for the Nagin post in the Afrawat range. Citing initial reports, the officials said two porters were killed while another porter and three soldiers were injured. The condition of two of the injured soldiers was stated to be critical and additional troops have been rushed to the area, they said. The officials said the soldiers who were in the vehicle opened retaliatory fire when



Sacrifice of martyrs will not go in vain: LG

JAMMU: LG Manoj Sinha condemned the terror attack at Butapathri Sector of Gulmarg. "Spoke to top army officials on heinous terror attack in Butapathri Sector. Directed for swift & befitting reply to neutralise terrorists. Operation in progress. Sacrifice of our martyrs will not go in vain. Condolences to their families. Praying for speedy recovery of injured" LG posted on X. "Details are being ascertained," it said. The area is completely dominated by the Army and there have been reports in the past that a

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## Terrorist captured in CCTV footage from Ganderbal attack site, probe underway

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: A CCTV grab of a Pheran-clad terrorist allegedly involved in the Gagangir attack in Jammu and Kashmir has emerged here but investigators said they are yet to ascertain if the AK rifle-wielding assailant carried out the October 20 assault that left seven dead. The ultra could be seen entering a prefabricated hut, believed to be at the Gagangir tunnel construction site -- where seven people including six non-local labourers -- were killed in the terror attack, official sources



However, security officials are trying to ascertain the authenticity of the image on various counts, the sources said. The screen grab has 'January 27' as the date stamp -- which sources

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## LG emphasises vital role of writers in progress of society, nation building

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Thursday emphasised the vital role of writers in the progress of society and nation building. Addressing 'Akhil Bhartiya Kavi Sammelan' at Raj Bhawan, the Lieutenant Governor also lauded the important contribution of poets and writers in shaping of ideas besides promotion and preservation of rich artistic and cultural heritage. He said, power of knowledge, ideas and imagination of writers provides fresh perspective and contributes in



prosperity and well-being of the society. The event marked the culmination of three-day long literary Festival 'Jashn-e-Sangam', organised by J&K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages and Wadies Hindi Shiksha Samiti. On the occasion, the Lt Governor extended his felicitations to the acclaimed lit-

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## Terrorists target non-local labourer in Tral, grenade goes off in Baramulla court

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: Terrorists shot at and injured a labourer from Uttar Pradesh in the Tral area of Pulwama district on Thursday morning, officials said. Shubam Kumar, a resident of Bijnore, received a gunshot injury in the arm when the terrorists fired at him at Batagund village, the officials said. They said Kumar has been rushed to a hospital for treatment. This is a third attack on non-local labourers in Kashmir in the past one week. Six non-local labourers and a local doctor were killed in a terror attack on a construc-

tion site in Ganderbal district on Sunday, while a labourer from Bihar was shot dead by terrorists in Shopian district on October 18. Meanwhile, a policeman was injured in an explosion in the evidence room of a court in Baramulla district, officials said on Thursday. "A grenade (collected as evidence in a case) exploded inside the 'malkhana (evidence room)' of a court in Baramulla town on Thursday," a police official said. One policeman was injured in the explosion and he was taken to a hospital, he said.

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## 'Those affected by demolitions can come to court': SC

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Thursday refused to entertain a plea alleging contempt of its order on demolition of properties by the authorities in Uttarakhand, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. A bench of Justices B R Gavai, P K Mishra and K V Viswanathan said it was not inclined to entertain the plea filed by the petitioner who was not directly or indirectly related to the alleged act. "We don't want to open a Pandora's box," said the bench, adding, "Let the persons who are affected by demolition come to the court". The petitioner's counsel alleged the authorities in Haridwar, Jaipur and Kanpur had demolished properties in contempt of the apex court's order which had said demolition would not be carried out without its permission. "The Supreme Court's order was categorical that without the leave of

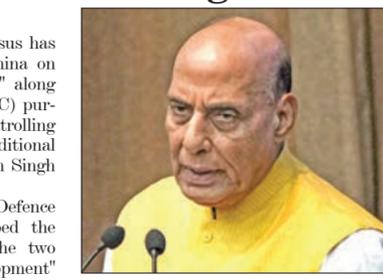
## CJ visits Baramulla; inaugurates NDPS Court at Distt Court Complex

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
BARAMULLA: Chief Justice, High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, Justice Tashi Rabstan, on Thursday visited Baramulla and inaugurated the newly created Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Court at District Court Complex here. The Chief Justice inaugurated the NDPS court in presence of Justice Sanjeev Kumar Shukla Judge High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh who is also administrative Judge of Baramulla, Principal Secretary to Chief Justice, M.K. Sharma, Principal District and Sessions Judge Baramulla, Jawad Ahmad, Deputy Commissioner Minga Sherpa, SSP Baramulla Mohammad Zaid Malik and other members of the bar and district administration officers. The NDPS court will oversee and settle the cases that come under the NDPS Act, which prohibits the production, manufacturing,

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## Broad consensus achieved on restoring ground situation along LAC: Rajnath

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NEW DELHI: A broad consensus has been achieved by India and China on restoring the "ground situation" along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) pursuant to talks, including for patrolling and grazing cattle in the traditional areas, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Thursday. Speaking at the Chanakya Defence Dialogue 2024, Singh described the agreement reached between the two countries as a "significant development" that underscores the importance of defence dialogue on the global stage. "India and China have been involved in talks both at military and diplomatic levels to resolve differences in certain areas along the LAC. Pursuant to the talks, a broad consensus has been



achieved to restore the ground situation based on the principle of equal and mutual security," Singh said. "The consensus achieved includes patrolling and grazing (cattle) in the traditional areas. This is the power of engaging in continuous dialogue

because sooner or later, solutions will emerge," the defence minister added. In a major breakthrough in ending the over four-year-long military standoff, India on Monday announced that it has reached an agreement with China on patrolling along the LAC in eastern Ladakh. It is understood that the agreement will facilitate patrolling in Depsang and Demchok areas as there were major unresolved issues in these two places. On Wednesday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping endorsed the India-China agreement on patrolling and disengagement along the LAC in eastern Ladakh on the margins of the BRICS Summit in Russia. They also issued directions to revive various

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**WEATHER**

Temperature (Jammu)  
Max: 32.0°C Min: 16.6°C

Humidity  
Max: 71 Min: 66

Temperature (Srinagar)  
Max: 23.2°C Min: 6.8°C

Humidity  
Max: 74 Min: 57

Sunset: 17:47 Hours  
Sunrise: 06:41 Hours

## Justice Sanjiv Khanna appointed next CJI, oath on Nov 11

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NEW DELHI: Justice Sanjiv Khanna was on Thursday appointed the 51st Chief Justice of India. He will take oath on November 11, a day after incumbent Justice D Y Chandrachud demits office on attaining the age of 65. Justice Chandrachud took over as the CJI on November 8, 2022. Justice Khanna will have a tenure of a little over six months as CJI and would demit office on May 13, 2025. "In exercise of the power conferred by the Constitution of India, Hon'ble President, after consultation with Hon'ble Chief Justice of India, is pleased to appoint Shri Justice Sanjiv Khanna, Judge of the Supreme Court of India as Chief Justice of



India with effect from 11th November, 2024," Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal posted on X. Justice Khanna was appointed an additional judge of the Delhi High Court in 2005 and was made a permanent judge in 2006. On January 18, 2019, he was elevated as a judge of the Supreme Court. Born on May 14, 1960, he studied law at the Campus Law Centre of Delhi University. Some of the notable judgments of Justice Khanna in the Supreme Court include upholding the use of electronic voting machines in elections, saying the devices were secure and eliminated booth capturing and bogus voting. He is also part of the five-

judge bench that declared the electoral bond scheme, meant for funding of political parties, as unconstitutional. Justice Khanna was a part of the five-judge bench, which upheld the Centre's 2019 decision abrogating Article 370 of the Constitution which granted a special status to the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir. Justice Khanna, who is the senior-most judge after the outgoing CJI, and the executive chairman of the National Legal Service Authority (NALSA), had granted interim bail to the then Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, an accused in the alleged Delhi excise policy scam cases, for campaigning in Lok Sabha elections. He is the nephew of former apex court judge H R

Khanna, who was part of the landmark verdict propounding the basic structure doctrine in Kesavananda Bharati case of 1973. The retirement age of Supreme Court judges is 65 years, while high court judges demit office at the age of 62 years. The Centre recently asked CJI Chandrachud to name his successor. According to the memorandum of procedure (MoP) -- a set of documents guiding appointment, elevation and transfer of high court and Supreme Court judges -- the law minister writes to the CJI to name his or her successor. Law Minister Meghwal had written to CJI Chandrachud asking him to name his successor. The MoP

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## Northern Army commander reviews security situation in Kashmir



**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: Northern Army commander Lt Gen M V Suchindra Kumar on Thursday reviewed the security situation in the Kashmir valley and asked the forces to remain vigilant. "#LtGenMVSuchindraKumar, #ArmyCdrNC, accompanied by #GOC #ChinarCorps, visited #Shalateg Garrison under #CIFKilo to review the security situation," the Army's Northern Command said in a post on X. The Army said the commander exhorted all ranks to uphold professionalism, stay vigilant and steadfast in counter-terror operations.