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This Diwali, keep lights not smoke-protect **UU** your heart from air pollution: Dr Sushil

J&K Cong leaders write to Kharge, flag leadership failure

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

ICC Chief Jay Shah, BCCI President Mithun Manhas inaugurate Mithali Raj Stand in Vizag

Sat Sharma among 3 BJP candidates for polls to 4 RS seats in J&K

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STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The BJP on Sunday named three candidates, including its Jammu and Kashmir unit president Sat Pal Sharma, for the elections to four Rajya Sabha seats in the Union Territory scheduled for October 24.

Two other candidates are Dr. Ali Mohammad Mir and Rakesh Mahajan.

The Election Commission has issued three separate notifications for the elections to four seats.

The National Conference-Congress combine has an edge in three seats while the BJP has in one, going by their strength in the assem-

The BJP's decision to force a contest will spice up the polling, as it is expected to spearhead an intensive exercise to woo MLAs from other parties to shore up support for its candidates. The ruling National Conference

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4 drug peddlers held, over 38 gms heroin seized

STATE TIMES NEWS JAMMU: Over 38 grams of heroin was recovered and four drug peddlers were nabbed in two separate incidents in Jammu and Kashmir's Samba Udhampur districts Sunday, police said.

Mushtaq Hussain and Zafar Shah, both residents of Targain-Budhal village of Rajouri, were arrested after 30.70 grams of heroin were recovered during a check of their car near Sarore bus stand in Samba district, a police spokesperson said.

Two more peddlers, Irshad and Mohd Arif alias Jugnu, were arrested during a vehicle check near Birma bridge in Udhampur district the officer added.

He said the two accused were riding on a two-wheeler when they were intercepted by the police, leading to the recovery of 8.46 grams of heroin from their

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Afghanistan says it has killed 58 Pakistani soldiers in overnight border ops **AGENCY**

PESHAWAR: Afghanistan said Sunday it killed 58 Pakistani soldiers in overnight border operations, in response to what it called repeated violations of its territory and airspace.

Earlier in the week, Afghan authorities accused Pakistan of bombing the capital, Kabul, and a market in the country's east. Pakistan did not claim responsibility for the assault.

The Taliban government's chief spokesman, Zabihullah Mujahid, said Afghan forces have captured 25 Pakistani army posts, 58 soldiers have been killed and 30 others wounded.



Sunrise: 06:32 Hours



Denied 'safe seat', Cong opts out from contesting RS polls in J&K

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee on Sunday said his party will not contest the October 24 Rajya Sabha elections to four seats in the Union territory in view of alliance partner National Conference refusing it a 'safe seat'.

Addressing mediapersons after a meeting of party leaders, it has been announced that the party leaders unanimously agreed that the Congress will not contest the Rajya Sabha polls. The Congress central leadership sought one of the two Rajya Sabha seats that are going to polls separately but National Conference offered the party one of the two seats, which are going o polls under a common notification.

'Keeping this in mind, all the participants (at the meeting) were of the opinion that seat four s not safe like seat one or two. It was unanimously decided that we will not put up our candidate for seat number four. We will leave it to our alliance partners to see what they think about that," Tariq Hamid Karra, President JKPCC said. "Since the safe seat was not offered to us, we don't want to contest on seat four," he added.

Army Commander reviews operational preparedness



Army's northern commander Lt Gen Pratik Sharma interacting with troops at Rajouri sector.

STATE TIMES NEWS RAJOURI: Army's northern commander Lt Gen Pratik Sharma has reviewed the operational preparedness of the troops deployed in Rajouri district, officials said on Sunday.

The General Commanding-in-chief, northern command, visited the

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Two rape accused held, two missing women reunited with families **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Two persons, facing separate charges of abduction and rape of two minor girls, were arrested, while two missing women were reunited with their in Doda and Kathua, police said on Sunday

Swami Raj, a resident of area Udhampur, was arrested for his alleged involvement in the abduction and rape of a minor girl in Gandoh area of the Doda district earlier this month, a police spokesman said. He said a case was registered under relevant

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Landslide struck Narsoo market in Samroli area; several commercial structures damaged

STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: commercial structures were damaged in a landslide in Udhampur district on Sunday, officials said.

The landslide struck Narsoo market in Samroli area along the Jammu-Srinagar national highway around 11.30 am, resulting in damage to a recently opened hotel building and a couple of shops, the officials said. They said there was no report of any casualty as all the build-



ings in the market area landslide were evacuated before the destroyed the structures.

Heightened vigil at LoC ahead of winter to curb infiltration

valley,

the Security Force (BSF) officer

"Generally, it has been seen

that there are increased

attempts of infiltration

before the winters. Keeping

that in mind, we have put our

jawans and officers on alert

and have heightened our vig-

Additional Director General

of BSF, Satish S Khandare

told reporters on the side-

ilance on the border,



STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The BSF has heightened its vigil along the Line of Control (LoC) in Kashmir ahead of the winter as there is a possibility of increased infiltration attempts from across the border, a senior officer said on Sunday.

Intelligence inputs suggest that terrorists are waiting at various launch pads across the border to infiltrate into Bandipora district.

"It is difficult to give an exact number, but the reports we have is that our neighbouring country is making some launchpads across the border," he added. The BSF officer said the

lines of Wular 2.0 Marathon

Kashmir's

north

danger of terrorists infiltrating into our country from across always remains, but the BSF and the Army is alert and prepared on the border to deal with the situation and thwart such attempts.

"We are fulfilling our responsibilities very well," he

Scores of participants, including youth and women. took part in the three race categories - 5 km, 10 km, and 21 km of the

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Omar participates in Vedanta Delhi Half Marathon, achieves personal best finish time

STATE TIMES NEWS

Even as the elite athletes Staff, Anil



DELHI: enthusiasts from all walks of life, including Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, thronged the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium here on Sunday as it transformed into a sea of humanity with over 40,000 participants converging to celebrate the spirit of running at the Vedanta Delhi Half Marathon.

ran for the top prize and best times, the likes of Abdullah, Delhi's Lt Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena, Chief of Defence Chauhan, among others, united in large numbers to

STATE TIMES NEWS

PATNA: After days of brain-

storming, away from the

heat and dust of poll-bound

Bihar, the ruling NDA on

Sunday came out with its

seat-sharing formula for the

elections to the 243-member

Minister Nitish Kumar's

JD(U) and the BJP deciding

to contest 101 constituencies

each, and leaving the rest for

with Chief

assembly,

smaller allies.

Open 10K and said after finishing the race that events like these not only help promote the culture of running in the country, they also build an ecosystem that benefits the underprivileged. "It's more than just the athletes that run, it's the whole ecosystem that goes around it. And, the number of families and underprivileged that get helped by this event is truly phenomenal.

BJP, a former junior ally

which has, over the years,

Minister Narendra Modi's

rise to national prominence,

expanded its footprints in the

Union minister Chirag

Paswan, who was accused of

damaging the JD(U) in the

last assembly polls, when he

had revolted against the

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NDA, will field candidates

since

especially

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Farooq welcomes **Israel-Hamas ceasefire**

run alongside regular sports

enthusiasts, giving a huge fil-

lip to the sporting ecosystem

Abdullah, who so enthusi-

astically had collected his bib

and kit on Saturday, ran the

in the country.

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: National Conference (NC) president Farooq Abdullah on Sunday welcomed the ceasefire agreement between Israel and Hamas, and expressed hope that it would pave the way for peace after two years of "heartbreaking" conflict.

"This is an important and much-needed development. I sincerely hope it will lead to

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KALINGA INSTITUTE OF

KIIT Deemed to be University (Established U/S 3 of UGC Act 1956), Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India

KIIT is only 28 years old as an institute (1997 - 2025) and 22 years old as a univ



out, BJP, JD(U) get 101 each

This is the first time that

the two top constituents of

the NDA in the state are con-

testing an equal number of

The announcement came

less than a week left for the

filing of nominations for the

The JD(U), headed by

Kumar, who is seeking a

record fifth consecutive term

in office, agreed to contest

101 seats, as many as the

first phase of the elections.

World University Rankings 2026

placed globally in the Top 501 Cohort

Ranked Globally

in Academic Excellence

Best in India

Top Performer in India in Three Parameters

Industry Integration

International **Outlook**

🧽 Social Commitment Strong alignment with SDG goals 4, 10 & 16

KIIT's Rank Over the Years 601-800 601-800 601-800 800-1000 2025 2024 2023 1001+ Advancing 2021 with Pride 2020

TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION SUMMARY STATEMENT

"KIIT's performance in THE (Times Higher Education) World University Rankings 2026 reflects a decade of transformation from Local Excellence to Global Excellence. The institution has demonstrated that a socially inclusive university from Odisha can compete with the world's finest through innovation, compassion, and quality education."

"Every state aspires to have an institution ranked among the top 500 globally. I am happy that KIIT, a 28-year-old institution (established in 1997) and a Deemed to be University for 22 years (declared in 2004), has been placed among the premier institutions and universities of the world in the 501 cohort. This accomplishment is a matter of pride for Odisha in particular, and for India as a whole."

Achyuta Samanta (Founder-KIIT, KISS & KIMS)



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KIIT (Deemed to be University) has only one permanent campus in Bhubaneswar, Odisha It has no other campus / off campus anywhere else in the country and globe