Major General Praveen Chhabra calls UU on Lt Governor Kavinder Gupta

Regd. No. L-29/JK-346/2025-27

J&K in control as Nabi, bowlers turn things upside down for Mumbai

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

Air surcharge 50 paisa for Leh JK Public School Kunjwani wins Fair Play Trophy in District Jammu Rope Skating Competitions



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Omar reiterates demand for early restoration of statehood

Says it would empower elected government

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Friday hoped for an early restoration of Jammu and Kashmir's statehood, saying it would give more powers to the elected government and enable it to fulfil the promises made to the people during last year's assembly

Talking to reporters in Kulgam district of south Kashmir, Abdullah said he had expected the Centre to fulfil the promise of statehood restoration made to the people of the Union territory from the floor of Parliament and the Supreme Court, but since that has not happened, he would continue pressing for it.

"We are hoping for more powers and



that is why we are stressing on the (restoration of) statehood, because that

is a promise made to the people of Jammu and Kashmir, and that promise should be fulfilled," Abdullah told reporters in Kulgam district in south

"Only the Centre and the BJP can state the reasons for keeping Jammu and Kashmir without statehood. But, we will not stop trying (to make efforts)," he added.

Asked about PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti's reported conditions that the government support her party MLA's private member bills in exchange for backing the ruling party in the Rajya Sabha polls, Abdullah said it is the Speaker who decides which bill can be brought up in the assembly CONTD ON PAGE 9

Portion of protection wall caves in on Jammu-Srinagar highway, traffic disrupted

STATE TIMES NEWS

BANIHAL (RAMBAN): A portion of a protection wall along the Jammu-Srinagar national highway collapsed in Ramban district of Jammu and Kashmir, disrupting vehicular movement, officials said on Friday.

Around 40 metres of the wall along with the adjoining Sawni panchayat link road, caved in on Thursday night. Project Director of the

Highways National Authority of India (NHAI), Shubham Yadav, said a 40metre section of the back wall had been damaged. "One tube of the

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

India now unstoppable, does not remain silent after terror attacks: Modi

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday asserted that India now does not remain silent after terror attacks but hits back using surgical and air strikes

Addressing the NDTV World Summit here, he said there are several roadblocks and speed breakers but India remains "unstoppable".

"India no more remains silent after terror attacks but gives befitting reply through air strikes, surgical strikes and Operation Sindoor," he said.

"When wars became headlines globally, India proved naysayers wrong by continuing to march ahead as fastest growing economy," added Modi.

Noting that India is not in a "mood to stop", he said as the world today faces various roadblocks and speed breakers, it is only natural to talk about an unstoppable India.



PM Narendra Modi addressing at the NDTV World Summit-2025 in New Delhi.

"We will neither pause nor slow down. 140

crore Indians will ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

AAP's 'Mission Sell Punjab' exposed: Chugh

STATE TIMES NEWS CHANDIGARH:

National General Secretary Tarun Chugh on Friday lashed out at the Bhagwant Mann government selling off the valuable 14-acre Mandi Board land

in Mohali to PUDA for Rs. 700 crore. In a statement, he said that

after the failed attempt to sell Punjab via the controversial land pooling policy, the

First freight train carrying industrial salt from **Gujarat reaches Kashmir**

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The first 21wagon consignment of industrial salt from Gujarat reached south Kashmir on Friday, adding another milestone in freight transportation for the Jammu division of Northern Railway, officials said.

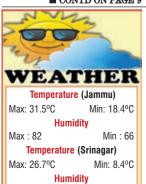
The train, carrying 1,350 tonnes of industrial salt from Kharaghoda Goods Shed in Gujarat, arrived at the Anantnag goods shed in Kashmir, they said.

Divisional Commercial Manager, Jammu Division, Uchit Singhal said, "The Jammu Division of Northern Railway on Friday received the first 21-wagon consignment of industrial salt from Gujarat at the Anantnag goods shed in Kashmir."

The industrial salt is mainly used in tanning, pulp, soap, and brick kiln indus-According to officials, the

new mode of transport will ensure a steady supply of essential commodities to

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9



Mann government is now

eyeing Mandi Board land to continue its loot of Punjab's resources. Chugh said that the land was origi-

meant to build a modern Mandi for the benefit of farmers, but now the government has decided to auction it for private developers. This, he

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU/SRINAGAR: The

Economic Offences Wing

(EOW) of Crime Branch

Kashmir on Friday filed a

chargesheet in FIR No.

23/2019 before the Court of

Judge,

Corruption, Srinagar, in con-

nection with a major land

fraud involving the illegal

occupation of 52 kanals of

land and manipulation of

revenue records in Ehel

The case involves eight

accused persons, including

four revenue officials - three

retired and one serving - who

allegedly played a key role in

STATE TIMES NEWS

station as part of Indian

Railways' preparations to

ensure safe and comfortable

travel for passengers during

the uncoming festive season,

A senior team led by Senior

Manager (DCM) Uchit

Singhal conducted a detailed

inspection of the station to

review passenger facilities

and assess security arrange-

scanners, metal detectors,

Commercial

officials said on Friday.

Security, surveillance beefed up at Jammu

railway station ahead of festive rush

Danihama.

DB upholds life term in 2001 JDA double murder case **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: The Division Bench of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh upheld the life imprisonment awarded to two convicts, Dev Raj and Balwan Singh, in sensational 2001 double murder case in office that had sent JDAshock waves across the Jammu City.

Major land fraud case: CB chargesheets

8 accused including revenue officials

the fraudulent transactions.

A Crime Branch Kashmir

spokesperson said, *"The

case was registered after a

written complaint alleging

that Nadeem Ahmad Mayer

and Shafiq Ahmad Mayer of

Iqbal Colony, Shalteng,

Srinagar, had illegally

encroached upon land by fab-

ricating revenue records.

Investigations revealed that

fake and forged mutation

numbers 13, 16, 17, 18, 30,

31, and 34 were executed

under the guise of an oral

gift (Hiba Zabani), despite

there being no legal or famil-

ial basis for such a transfer."

The investigation uncov-

comprising The bench, Justice Sanjeev Kumar and Justice Sanjay Parihar, dismissed the appeals filed by the convicts and sustained said, is a betrayal of the farmers and traders who the order of the Sessions Judge, Jammu, which had

sentenced them to life imprisonment for the murder of Pardeep Kumar alias Deepa and Kamal Raj alias Pappu.

The case dates back to April 24, 2001, when a dispute over the KMD bus stand booking counter escalated into violence inside the JDA office complex at Panama Chowk. On that day, the deceased Pardeep Kumar and Kamal Raj had gone to attend proceedings before the JDA authorities when they were confronted by Balwan Singh and coaccused Gandharb Singh (since deceased), accompa-

ered serious irregularities

including the absence of

Parti Sarkar (official muta-

tion records), missing treas-

ury voucher numbers and

dates, and unauthorized exe-

cution of mutation by a sin-

gle co-owner. This amounted

to a direct violation of owner-

ship rights of other stake-

holders. Additionally, around

40 kanals of state land were

also found to have been

encroached upon illegally,

indicating a well-planned and

organized land grab in con-

"The fraud was carried out

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

nivance with officials

in active collusion with

nied by Dev Raj, then serving Gandharb Personal Security Officer. During a heated exchange.

Balwan Singh allegedly exhorted his associates to kill the rival party. Acting on this, Dev Raj opened fire with his service AK-56 rifle, killing Deepa and Pappu on the spot, while eyewitness Sanjeev Kumar was beaten and thrown from a window but survived with injuries.

The trial court had convicted the accused in 2009 under Sections 302, 307, 326, 109 and 34 of the Ranbir Penal Code, awarding life impris-

Gold jumps Rs 3,200 to hit record

Rs 1,34,800 per 10g ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Gold prices surged by Rs 3,200 to touch a new lifetime high of Rs 1,34,800 per 10 grams in the national capital on Friday, buoyed by strong festive buying by jewellers and retailers ahead of Dhanteras, according to the All India Sarafa Association.

The precious metal of 99.9 per cent purity had ended at Rs 1,31,600 per 10 grams in the previous session

In tandem, gold of 99.5 per cent purity also jumped by Rs 3.200 to scale an all-time high of Rs 1,34,200 per 10grams (inclusive of all

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

onment and fines. While the appellants claimed Dev Raj fired in private defence, the High Court rejected this argument, observing that the deceased were unarmed and posed no immediate threat.

"The firing of eight rounds from a service rifle at unarmed persons far exceeded any lawful measure of self-defence," the bench noted. The judges further held that the act was deliberate, motivated by long-standing enmity, and carried out with clear intent to kill.

Upholding the trial ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

passes away Azad, Farooq, Omar express grief **■ STATE TIMES NEWS** Ghulam Nabi Azad was the

Gulchain Singh Charak

JAMMU: Former Jammu Kashmir

Minister and veteran political leader Gulchain Singh Charak away on Friday after a prolonged illness. He was 85.

A seasoned leader with a decades-long association with the Congress. Charak served as a minister in the PDP-Congress coali-

while State. He also headed the Dogra Sadar Sabha, a socio-political organisation that often raised issues concerning the Dogra identity and the perceived neglect of the

Chief Minister of the erst-

Jammu region. The death of Gulchain Singh Charak, has been

widely mourned.

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

LG Manoj Sinha leads delegation to Russia to bring back Buddha relics



LG Manoj Sinha arriving at Elista Kalmykia.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Kashmir Governor Manoj Sinha on

Friday arrived at Elista, Jammu and Kalmykia, as the head of an Lieutenant Indian delegation to pay homage to the sacred relics of

tasked with bringing back the sacred relics of Lord Buddha that are currently on display at an international

Sinha led delegation is

Lord Buddha.

exhibition in the Russian Republic of Kalmykia. In a post on X, Office of LG wrote, "Landed in Elista, Kalmykia, Russia. Looking forward to paying my obeisance to holy relics of Lord Buddha & interaction with Batu Sergeyevich Khasikov, Head of Republic of Kalmykia, Head of the

Buddhists of Kalmykia,

Shajin Lama of

CONTD ON PAGE 9

Centre orders probe into Sep 24 violence in Leh by retired SC judge

Leh violence: MHA orders probe by retired SC judge

JAMMU: Security and surveillance have been intensi-The team also checked the fied at the Jammu railway

availability of drinking water, cleanliness of toilets, and condition of waiting rooms. Staff on duty were directed to maintain hygiene, assist passengers promptly, and ensure operational efficiency.

display boards, ticket inspection counters, and enquiry offices were inspected, with staff asked to remain alert and make regular announcements regarding train schedules and platform details.

"Keeping security in mind, adequate deployment of security forces has been ensured," an official said, adding that surveillance across the station has been enhanced through luggage The DCM also

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

and additional CCTV cam-

Help desks, information

tive rush, officials reviewed the functioning of elevators and escalators to ensure smooth movement of passen-

In view of the expected fes-

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The Centre on Friday moved to address a key demand of the protesting Ladakh groups by announcing a judicial inquiry headed by a retired Supreme Court judge into the violent clashes of September 24 in Leh, which claimed the lives of four people, including a 1999 Kargil war veteran.

According to a notification issued by the Union Home Ministry, the judicial probe, to be headed by Justice B S Chauhan, a former judge of the Supreme Court, is mandated to investigate the "circumstances leading to the serious law and order situation, the police action and the resultant unfortunate deaths

of four people"

Retired district and sessions judge Mohan Singh Parihar will function as judicial secretary, while IAS officer Tushar Anand will be the administrative secretary of the inquiry commission.

The September 24 clashes between security forces and protesters - who were demanding statehood and Sixth Schedule status for the Union territory - left four civilians dead and 90 injured, escalating a months-long agi-

The appointment of a retired Supreme Court judge to head the inquiry directly addresses the demand by local groups for a high-level, impartial judicial investiga-

The announcement of the probe comes as an attempt to restore dialogue with the representatives of the ongoing movement, the Leh Apex Body and the Kargil Democratic Alliance (KDA), which suspended talks with the home ministry's highpowered committee (HPC) following the violence.

The talks with the HPC were scheduled on October 6, but after the violence and crackdown by the Ladakh administration, the Leh and Karil groups demanded the immediate release of all people arrested and detained, including climate activist Sonam Wangchuk, who

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Our aim is to take domestic defence production to 100 pc: Rajnath

STATE TIMES NEWS

NASHIK (MAHA): India is domestic defence production to 100 per cent as dependence on foreign military supplies creates "strategic vulnerability", Defence Minister Rajnath Singh

said on Friday. Singh said this after inaugurating a third production line of Tejas Light Combat Aircraft

(LCA)-Mk1A and a second manufacturing facility of trainer jet HTT-40. With opening of the new facility for Tejas jets, the

Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) is expected to produce at least 24 LCA air-"There was a time when the

country was dependent on

other countries to meet its defence needs, and almost

65-70 percent of defence equipment was imported, Singh said in his address

"But today, this situation has changed; now India is doing 65 per cent manufacturing on its own soil," he said.

"Very soon, we will take our domestic manufacturing

CONTD ON PAGE 9

Min: 57 Max: 85

Sunset: 17:56 Hours

Sunrise: 06:36 Hours