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LG Kavinder celebrates Diwali with Army jawans; hails their contribution in safeguarding border areas

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Exceptional coordination among armed forces brought Pakistan to its knees: Modi



PM Narendra Modi at the INS Vikrant on Monday.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
PANAJI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday said the exceptional coordination among the three armed forces -“ fear instilled by the Navy, extraordinary skills of the Air Force and

bravery of the Army -“ forced Pakistan to its knees during Operation Sindoor in no time. Addressing the Navy personnel onboard INS Vikrant off the Goa coast, he said the indigenously built aircraft carrier was

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PM celebrates Diwali with Navy personnel

PANAJI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi celebrated Diwali with naval personnel onboard aircraft carrier INS Vikrant, which he described as a towering symbol of 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat'.

Modi arrived here on Sunday evening and boarded the home-built aircraft carrier off the coast of Goa. The entire journey was done in a discreet manner, sources said.

"Today, on one side I have infinite horizons and infinite sky, and on the other side I have this giant, INS Vikrant, embodying infinite powers. The glow of the sun's rays on the ocean's waters is like the Diwali lamps lit by brave soldiers," the prime minister said.

Sunday evening was spent watching air exercises onboard the aircraft carrier, being part of a cultural evening and partaking in Bara Khana with the Navy personnel. "People love celebrating Diwali

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CM extends greetings on Diwali

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Monday extended warm greetings to the people of Jammu and Kashmir and to all those celebrating the festival of Diwali across the country and beyond.

In his message, the Chief Minister said that Diwali, the festival of lights, signifies the triumph of good over evil and the victory of truth and righteousness. He noted that the festival is a celebration of hope and harmony, symbolizing the enduring values of compassion, unity and mutual respect that enrich India's diverse cultural heritage.

Omar Abdullah expressed hope that the festival would bring joy, peace and prosperity to every home.

"May this Diwali usher in a new era of happiness, peace, and progress for Jammu and Kashmir and the

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LG Manoj Sinha arrives at Delhi with holy relics of Lord Buddha



LG Manoj Sinha arrives at Delhi with Holy Relics of Lord Buddha.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
NEW DELHI: Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha returned to Delhi on Monday after concluding his three-day visit to the Republic of Kalmykia, Russia.

The Lieutenant Governor posted on X: "Holy relics of Lord Buddha are back home after week-long exposition at Kalmykia, Russia. The exposition underscored our com-

mitment to foster mutual understanding, build trust and cooperation and create lasting connections through shared spiritual experiences. Exposition of holy relics has deepened spiritual connect and mindfulness will always serve as a source

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Flash floods in J&K pushed end dates of hydel power projects by 3 to 5 months: J&K Bank MD

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Bank MD and CEO Amitava Chatterjee on Monday said the flash floods caused by heavy rains a couple of months earlier have delayed the completion of hydel power projects in the Union Territory by three to five months.

He, however, said that while there was no direct impact of it on the bank as of now, there was a possibility of cost overrun in these proj-



ects.
Jammu and Kashmir has been battered by a series of

natural calamities like cloudbursts, extremely heavy rains and huge landslides in the past couple of months, which left several dead, flattened infrastructure, and upended normal life.

"Most of the infrastructure projects, like the hydel (power) projects which are in progress in the state, are being delayed by three to five months. That is the negative impact that has happened (due to rains and floods).

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Veteran actor Asrani passes away

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
MUMBAI: Veteran actor Asrani, who cemented a special place in the hearts of a u d i e n c e s

through his portrayal of t h e e c c e n t r i c jailer in Sholay and best known for his comic roles, passed away in a hospital here on Monday, his manager said.



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HOLIDAY NOTICE

Offices of the **STATE TIMES** Group of Publications shall remain closed on October 21, 2025 (Tuesday) in connection with Deepawali celebrations.

Therefore, there will be no issue of your paper on October 22, 2025 (Wednesday).

Chugh slams Akhilesh Yadav, SP-Cong alliance over remarks on Lord Ram

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
NEW DELHI: Reacting sharply to Samajwadi Party (SP) chief Akhilesh Yadav's recent remarks on Lord Ram, BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh on Monday launched a scathing attack on the SP-Congress alliance.

In a statement, Chugh accused the opposition of hypocrisy, stating that those who once opposed the country's Sanatan culture are now trying to speak in favour



of it for political gain. "The Congress, SP, and Akhilesh Yadav, who have

spent their lives opposing the country's Sanatan culture and the name of Lord Ram, are now trying to preach about Lord Ram. The public will not accept this," Chugh said.

He alleged that these parties were responsible for violence against Shri Ram devotees in the past.

"Their hands are stained with the blood of innocent Ram devotees. Those who fired bullets just for

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33 nominations filed for bypolls in Nagrota, Budgam LA segments

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
JAMMU: Thirty-three candidates, including 13 independents and four women, filed their nomination papers from Budgam and Nagrota assembly constituencies, which are going to bypolls in Jammu and Kashmir next month, election officials said.

Monday was the last date for the filing of the nomination papers from the two assembly segments going to polls on November 11. The scrutiny of papers is scheduled for October 22 and withdrawal of candidatures for October 24.

The counting of votes will take place on November 14.

The officials said 20 candidates, including eight inde-

NC, BJP candidates file nominations for Budgam

SRINAGAR: Candidates of the ruling National Conference and opposition BJP on Monday filed nomination papers for the bypolls to the Budgam assembly segment in Jammu and Kashmir.

While the National Conference has named veteran Shia leader Aga Mehmood as its candidate, the BJP has fielded Syed Mohsin. The PDP has also announced its candidate, Aga Muntazir Mehdi. Aga Mehmood was accompanied by senior National Conference leaders, including Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, while Syed Mohsin

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NC fields DDC member from Nagrota

JAMMU: The National Conference has fielded its District Development Council (DDC) member Shamim Begum from Nagrota assembly constituency, which is going to bypolls next month, after Congress decided not to contest from there to realize their 'larger goal' of defeating BJP despite being offered the seat by the ruling party. Both coalition partners had fought last year's assembly elections together but the alliance has been going through

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pendents filed their nominations from Budgam constituency where National Conference has fielded former minister Aga Syed Mehmood Al-Mousvi, BJP Aga Syed Mohsin Mosvi and PDP Aga Syed Muntazir Mehdi.

Deeba Khan of Aam Aadmi Party, an independent, Aditi Sharma, from Jammu and Mukhtar Ahmad Dar of Apni Party are among other candidates, they said, adding the list also included covering candidates.

In Nagrota constituency, BJP has fielded Rana's daughter, Devyani Rana, who is facing a major challenge from

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