

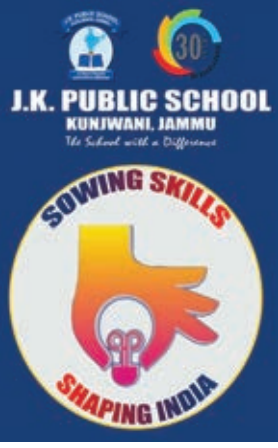


STATE TIMES

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03 UT Govt committed to making Ladakh a hub of education, sports & culture: LG Kavinder

10 Handball selection trials from Oct 29

10 Ruskin Bond Book Club of JKPS Kunjwani celebrates Ramayana Tale-Telling

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

NC wins three seats, BJP one in J&K's first RS polls after becoming UT

CM congratulates NC winners, says party "let down at last moment" on fourth seat

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The results of Jammu and Kashmir's first Rajya Sabha polls after becoming a Union Territory followed expected lines, with the ruling National Conference securing three seats on Friday and the BJP clinching the final one, largely due to a possible strategic cross-voting by a few Independents and the People's Conference's abstention.

Polling for the four Rajya Sabha seats was held on Friday, and the entire process was divided into three notifications. Chowdhry Mohammed Ramzan of the NC had a direct contest with Ali Mohammed Mir of the BJP in one of the seats. The NC candidate secured 58 votes, while the BJP managed only the party strength of 28.

In the second seat, NC's Sajjad Kitchloo had a direct fight against the BJP's Rakesh Mahajan. Kitchloo secured 57 votes, and the BJP managed 28. One vote of the



Ch Mohammed Ramzan Sajjad Kitchloo G S Oberoi Sat Sharma

NC was rejected.

For the third notification, the NC had fielded two candidates -- G S Oberoi, also known as Shammi Oberoi, and Imran Nabi Dar. The BJP, on the other hand, fielded its Jammu and Kashmir unit chief Sat Sharma. Oberoi got 31 votes, while Dar could only manage 21. The BJP candidate secured 32 votes, indicating that the party got four more votes, probably from the independent MLAs. Three votes were rejected.

Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah congratulated the three NC candi-

dates who got elected to the Rajya Sabha and made it clear that all party votes remained intact across the four elections, and the poll agent saw each polling slip.

"There was no cross-voting from any of our MLAs. So the questions arise -- where did the four extra votes of the BJP come from? Who were the MLAs who deliberately invalidated their votes by marking the wrong preference number while voting?"

"Do they have the guts to put their hands up and own up to helping the BJP after promising us their votes? What pres-

sure or inducement helped them make this choice? Let's see if any of the BJP's secret team owns up to selling their souls!" Abdullah said in his post on X. He also had a word for the losing candidate, Imran Nabi Dar.

"We put in our best effort to get him elected, but were let down at the last moment. It's not easy to lose a hard-fought election, but I'm confident other opportunities will open up for him soon."

The NC on Thursday issued a whip to its MLAs to ensure their presence

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8 cops suspended after video of attack on preachers in Kathua goes viral

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: A purported video of an attack on a vehicle carrying religious preachers in Kathua district went viral on social media, prompting police to suspend a sub-inspector and seven special police officers (SPOs), an official said on Friday.

The police have also arrested an accused in connection with the incident, he added.

"In the Juthana area under the Rajbagh police station of Kathua district, preachers were attacked by a group of youths wielding sticks while they were travelling in a vehicle. The video circulating on social media shows police present at the scene, but unable to immediately stop the attackers," the official said.

The main accused, Ravindra Singh Thela, and his associates have several prior criminal cases against them, the official added.

Following the incident, Senior Superintendent of Police, Kathua, Mohita Sharma ordered the

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J&K among first in country to implement NEP in all higher educational institutions: LG



LG Manoj Sinha addressing inaugural session of NEP Conclave 2025 at Srinagar.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, on Friday delivered the inaugural address at the NEP Conclave-2025, organised by the Higher Education Department.

While speaking at the event, the Lieutenant Governor applauded the efforts of all the stakeholders for speedy implementation of National Education Policy. He said, it is a matter of pride that Jammu Kashmir is among the first in the country to implement the

National Education Policy across all Higher Educational Institutions in the Union Territory.

The Lieutenant Governor also stated that Universities and Colleges in Jammu Kashmir are building an ecosystem that will be a catalyst for innovation and ground breaking research.

"We are building a future-ready academic ecosystem - one that is inclusive, innovative and impactful. Our aim is to empower every student of Jammu Kashmir to realise their potential, uphold the

spirit of Viksit Bharat @2047 and emerge as a proud contributor to the nation's growth story," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor observed that under the Leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Jammu Kashmir is building the movement around the vision of reforming and strengthening the higher education landscape for an uncertain world. He said the 'Artificial Intelligence Age' and traditional Indian

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Victims and perpetrators of terrorism cannot be equated: Jaishankar



■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: India on Friday cited Pakistan's attempts to protect at the UN Security Council the terror group that claimed responsibility for the Pahalgam attack to point out that the global body's work

has been "gridlocked" in absence of urgent reforms.

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar also criticised those equating victims and perpetrators of terrorism in the name of global strategy, in an apparent reference to hyphenation of India and Pakistan in the context of the dastardly terror strike.

Jaishankar was speaking at an event that celebrated the 80th anniversary of the United Nations (UN).

In his remarks, the external affairs minister said "all is not well" with the UN as its debates have become "increasingly polarised" and its working "visibly gridlocked". "Any

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Never underestimate adversaries: Rajnath to top Army commanders

"Abrogation of Art 370 historic; today, streets filled with hope, not unrest"

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Operation Sindoor has given rise to a new strategic thinking that India responds to any terrorist activity on its own terms, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Friday even as he called on the military to never underestimate the adversaries and remain alert to deal with any eventualities.

In an address to top Army commanders in Jaisalmer, Singh urged them to focus on information warfare, development of modern defence infrastructure, and modernisation of the force to effectively deal with future challenges.



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh interacting with soldiers at Laungewala in Rajasthan on Friday.

The defence minister and the top Army brass carried out a comprehensive review of the security situation along the frontiers with

China and Pakistan as well as the force's operational preparedness.

Singh also visited forward areas of Tanot and

Laungewala along the border with Pakistan and witnessed a mega exercise that showcased Army's induction of new-age technologies.

He described Operation Sindoor as an embodiment of India's military prowess and national character, and a demonstration by the soldiers that their strength lies not only in weapons, but also in their ethical discipline and strategic clarity.

"Operation Sindoor will go down in history as not just a military operation, but also a symbol of the nation's courage and restraint," he said. "The action taken by our forces against

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Owais gets addl charge of Special Secy, Planning, Development and Monitoring Deptt

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Government assigned additional charge to Owais Ahmed, IAS (AGMUT:2014). "In the interest of administration, it is ordered that Owais Ahmed, IAS (AGMUT:2014), Director, Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Kashmir shall, in addition of his own duties, hold the charge of Special Secretary to the Government, Planning, Development and Monitoring Department till further orders," reads an order issued by M. Raju, Commissioner/Secretary, General Administration Department.

CM reviews arrangements for Darbar Move Directs well-coordinated transition of offices to Jammu; adequate facilities for staff

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Friday chaired a high-level meeting to review the arrangements for the upcoming Darbar Move Session 2025-26, emphasizing on ensuring smooth, secure and well-coordinated shifting of offices from Srinagar to Jammu.

The meeting was attended by Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani, Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, Additional Chief Secretary (ACS) Estates Shaleen Kabra, ACS to the Chief



CM Omar Abdullah chairing meeting at Srinagar.

Minister Dheeraj Gupta, ACS Power Development Department Shailendra Kumar, Director General Fire & Emergency Services,

several Administrative Secretaries, Inspector General of Police Kashmir, Divisional

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Man held for impersonating senior cop

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: A man was arrested in Anantnag district on Friday for allegedly impersonating a senior police officer, police said.

During routine checking, a police team in the Kokernag area of south Kashmir district intercepted Umer Mochi, a resident of Zalamang, at the checkpoint while carrying a bag. Upon noticing the police team, he attempted to flee but was apprehended by police personnel, a police spokesperson said.

The team found a uniform bearing the rank of senior superintendent of police from his bag. Preliminary investigation revealed that the accused was allegedly using the uniform to impersonate a senior police officer with an intent to deceive the general public, he said. A case has been registered and further investigation is underway, he added.

WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 31.3°C Min: 17.8°C

Humidity
Max: 62 Min: 61

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 22.6°C Min: 5.4°C

Humidity
Max: 83 Min: 61

Sunset : 17:48 Hours
Sunrise : 06:41 Hours

Destiny of J&K changed under PM Modi's leadership after Article 370 abrogation: Rijiju

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Union minister Kiren Rijiju on Thursday said following the abrogation of Article 370 under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, Jammu and Kashmir's "destiny" has changed, paving the way for peace and development in the region.

Rijiju, in a reference to assembly polls in Bihar, said there is "Modi wave" across the country, and people everywhere believe that India's future is safe and bright under his leadership.

"I have personally felt that under the leadership of Prime Minister Modi and after the abrogation of Article 370, the destiny of Jammu and Kashmir has changed. Today,



Union Minister Kiren Rijiju handing over appointment letter to newly recruited candidate at Rozgar Mela in Jammu on Friday.

Jammu and Kashmir is moving forward on the path of peace and devel-

opment," Rijiju told reporters here. "The world wants to see Kashmir -

it is such a beautiful place - and when there is both peace and progress here, it will look even more magnificent," he said during an event where job letters were handed out to youth at Katra as part of a nationwide programme chaired by the prime minister.

"I have been coming to Kashmir for many years - I came in the 1970s, in the 1980s, and even after the 1990s and 2000s. But the kind of development that began in Jammu and Kashmir after 2014 had never happened before," Rijiju said.

The parliamentary affairs minister said that before constitutional changes were made while revoking Article 370, several provisions of the Indian

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Working to empower youth: Modi at Rozgar Mela

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said the BJP-led NDA government is working

shaped keeping the interest of the youngsters in mind. More than 51,000 candidates received appointment letters for government jobs



in the private sector. In a recorded message at the 17th Rozgar Mela, PM Modi said even the country's foreign policy was being

at Rozgar Melas held across the country. PM Modi said more than 11 lakh recruitment

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