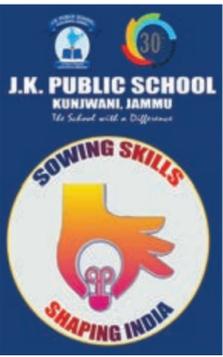


STATE TIMES

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Air surcharge 50 paise for Leh



03 Like Dussehra, 'Operation Sindoor' symbolises victory of good over evil: Dr Jitendra

03 J&K Bank holds Corporate Customer Meet at Chandigarh

10 Jammu boy Aarav Mahajan seals berth in Uttarakhand Ranji squad

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LG urges people to adopt Swadeshi; buy products made by SHG's, MSMEs

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Thursday paid tributes to Pujya Mahatma Gandhi on his Jamm-Jayanti. The Lieutenant Governor said the ideals of Bapu are a source of inspiration for the entire humanity and it is the collective responsibility of the society to inculcate the values of non-violence, truth, tolerance and compassion in the young generation.

"We live in a time when global challenges threaten to undermine peace and stability. We must follow the ideals of Pujya Bapu to address contemporary challenges," he said.

The Lieutenant Governor



was addressing the UT-level function commemorating the 156th birth anniversary celebration of Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, at Srinagar.

In his address, the Lieutenant Governor said the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi is turning Bapu's dreams into reality.

"The principles of self-less service-Sewa and Duties-Kartavya to which Gandhiji was committed will guide us in the journey of building 'Viksit Bharat'. With economic prosperity, we are determined to build a society powered by moral force and based on equity and justice," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor urged the people to adopt Swadeshi and

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Terrorist handler's property attached

STATE TIMES NEWS
KUPWARA: A land belonging to an alleged terrorist handler, based in Pakistan occupied Kashmir, was attached in Handwara, officials said here.

While investigating a case, Kralgund police was found that Nazir Ahmad Ganai, a resident of Palpora village, was operating from PoK and actively involved in guiding and handling terrorist activities in Handwara, a police spokesperson said.

As per the provision of law, proceedings to attach his property were initiated in the said case.

"After obtaining necessary legal sanctions from the competent authority, land belonging to Ganie in Palpora was attached

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With Thursday Sun Setting, Jammu's Parade Ground witnesses Ravana, Meghnath and Kumbhkarna set aflame amid big bang of crackers. (Pics by-Ashok Anand) (More pics on pg-5)

Rajnath warns Pakistan against any misadventure in Sir Creek; says response will be decisive

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI/BHUJ: In a stern warning to Pakistan, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Thursday said any misadventure by Islamabad in the Sir Creek sector will invite a "decisive response" that will be strong enough to change both "history and geography".

Singh's remarks at a military base near the India-Pakistan border in Gujarat's Bhuj came against the backdrop of the neighbouring country expanding military infrastructure in the disputed region.

The defence minister cele-

brated Dussehra with soldiers and performed 'shastra puja' (worship of weapons) on the occasion.

Singh also said that the Indian military successfully achieved all the objectives of Operation Sindoor and starting a war with Pakistan by escalating the situation was not its aim.

The operation "exposed" Pakistan's air defence and proved India's "decisive capability", he said.

However, his comments on the disputed Sir Creek sector drew much attention. "If Pakistan dares to act in

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Bhagwat bats for 'Swadeshi', need to enhance security capabilities

STATE TIMES NEWS
NAGPUR: Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat on Thursday said the inherent strength and character of Hindu society guarantee national unity and development, asserting that it is an inclusive force free from the divisive mentality of "us and them."

Addressing the annual Vijaydashmi rally in Nagpur, which marked the organisation's centenary, he said global interdependence shouldn't become a compulsion and there is no substitute for 'swavalamban' (self-reliance).



The RSS chief also called for increasing security capabilities, stating that the international response to the Pahalgam terror attack showed the true nature of India's global friendships.

Speaking on a wide-range

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Jammu region shows trend of spike in dengue cases

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Dengue cases have been rising the past fortnight, with Jammu recording the highest number of cases in the region, officials said.

So far this year, over 1,100 cases have been reported across the Jammu region, which is slightly lower than last year, they said.

Health officials pointed out that heavy rains and water-logging have created conditions for mosquito breeding. "Water is stagnating in several places, which is leading to mosquito growth," they said.

"There has been an increasing trend of dengue cases in

Jammu region," health department officials said.

Jammu is undergoing intense citywide thermal fogging and spraying by the Jammu Municipal Corporation to prevent the spread of vector-borne diseases such as dengue, malaria and chikungunya.

"Safeguarding the health and well-being of citizens is the foremost priority of the Jammu Municipal Corporation," Commissioner JMC Devansh Yadav said, emphasising the need for sustained and coordinated efforts at all levels.

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FIR lodged over circulation of Ladakh DGP's deepfake video

STATE TIMES NEWS
LEH: Police on Thursday registered an FIR to identify and arrest those behind the circulation of a deepfake video attributing a false statement to Ladakh Director General of Police (DGP) S D Singh Jamwal.

The Press Information Bureau (PIB) has said the video, in which Jamwal is purportedly seen claiming that climate activist Sonam Wangchuk was arrested on the defence minister's directions, is deepfake.

The video has gone viral on social media platforms.

"It has come to the notice of District Police Leh that a deepfake (digitally morphed) video is being circulated on social media platform X. In this video, false statements are attributed to the DGP, UT Ladakh.

"The video has been digitally manipulated using

CB files chargesheet against woman, 2 aides in multi-crore job scam

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Crime Branch of the Jammu and Kashmir Police has filed a chargesheet against a notorious woman and her two accomplices for their alleged involvement in a major job scam, in which they allegedly duped innocent people of crores of rupees on the pretext of providing government jobs in the Union Territory.

The trio allegedly hatched a conspiracy by minting huge amounts of money from 10 people on the promise of providing employment to them

and cheating people by issuing fake appointment orders of government service to unsuspecting youths.

"As offences were fully established during the course of investigation, the chargesheet of the case has been filed before the court of Railway Magistrate in Jammu," a Crime Branch officer said.

The case was registered in 2024 against the alleged woman fraudster from Ramgarh in Samba district and her two associates, Dalip Singh and Subhash Chander,

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Centre analysing data to review difficulty level of entrance exams like JEE, NEET

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: The Centre is mulling a review of the difficulty level of entrance exams like JEE and NEET to ensure it is in sync with the class 12 curriculum difficulty level and that students do not have to depend on coaching, according to sources.

The review will be conducted on the basis of the feedback from an expert panel set up to examine issues related to coaching. "The panel is analysing data to study if the difficulty

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Modi pays homage to Gandhi, Shastri on birth anniversary

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday paid his tributes to Mahatma Gandhi on his birth anniversary, and said his government will follow his path for building a developed India.

He said on X, "Gandhi Jayanti is about paying homage to the extraordinary life of beloved Bapu, whose ideals transformed the course of human history. He demonstrated how courage and simplicity could become instruments of great



PM Narendra Modi paying homage at Gandhi Smriti on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti in New Delhi on Thursday.

change." Modi said Gandhi believed in the power of service and compassion as essential means of empowering

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WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 33.9°C Min: 24.1°C

Humidity
Max: 86 Min: 68

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 29.0°C Min: 11.7°C

Humidity
Max: 68 Min: 46

Sunset: 18:15 Hours
Sunrise: 06:25 Hours

Tradition, religious fervour mark Dussehra celebration in Temple City

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Marking the victory of righteousness over evil, Dussehra was celebrated with great enthusiasm and religious fervour in Jammu on Thursday. The festivities culminated with the burning of giant effigies of Ravana, his brother Kumbhkarna, and son Meghnath, symbolising the triumph of Lord Rama over evil.

At Parade Ground, in the heart of the city, a large crowd gathered to witness the spectacular event. As the clock struck 5:45 PM, the towering effigies were set ablaze amid loud cheers, fireworks, and chants of "Jai Shri Ram." The scene recreated the epic conclusion of Ramleela, bringing down the curtain on the nine-day celebration.

The event was held under tight security arrangements and was

attended by hundreds of devotees, families, and tourists, who came together to uphold the age-old tradition symbolising the eternal fight between good and evil.

The role of Lord Rama was enacted by local artists who shot arrows to ignite the effigies of Ravana and Kumbhkarna, while Lakshman ignited Meghnad. The spectacle was greeted with loud cheers and applause, reinforcing the eternal message of righteousness triumphing over evil.

Earlier, the city of temples witnessed a spectacular celebration of Dussehra as a grand Shobha Yatra was taken out on Thursday by Sanatan Dharam Natak Samaj under the leadership of its Chairman and MLA Jammu East Constituency, Yudhvir Sethi.

The event was marked by immense public participation,



MLA Jammu East Constituency, Yudhvir Sethi leading the Dussehra procession on Thursday.

vibrant tableaux, and the symbolic burning of effigies, upholding the tradition of celebrating the victory of good over evil.

The Shobha Yatra began from Deewan Mandir with traditional

actively participated in the procession. Their presence added a devotional and cultural flavor to the event.

Speaking on the occasion, Yudhvir Sethi said, "Dussehra is not only a festival but also a reminder that truth and righteousness always prevail. The Shobha Yatra reflects our rich culture and traditions, and the huge participation of people shows the unity and devotion of our society. It is this spirit that keeps our heritage alive and strengthens the bond among communities."

He further appreciated the efforts of Sanatan Dharam Natak Samaj for meticulously organizing the event and providing a platform to local artists to showcase their talent. Elaborate arrangements made by the organizers ensured smooth

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