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National Highway, Near Thandi Khul, Jammu  
Contact: 9886035550, 9886035551

# STATE TIMES

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**SOWING SKILLS**  
SHAPING INDIA

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## Sinha pays obeisance to Baba Jitto, interacts with farmers Panchayat, ULB elections to be held soon: LG



LG Manoj Sinha paying obeisance to Baba Jitto on Saturday.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Saturday announced that Panchayat and Urban Local Body elections will be held soon.

Sinha made the remarks while addressing a large gathering of farmers and devotees during his visit to Jhiri Mela on the outskirts of Jammu after paying obeisance at his Samadhi in Jhiri Village.

He said, the sacrifice of Baba Jitto continues to inspire the society to work towards a stronger nation.

Highlighting the deep spiritual and

- ▶ Says sacrifice of Baba Jitto continues to inspire society to work towards stronger nation
- ▶ Deep spiritual, cultural significance of Jhiri Mela reminds us about sacrifices of our farming families, their vital role in serving and nurturing humanity
- ▶ Empowering farmers of UT my mission; we have taken strategic steps to accelerate transformation in agriculture & allied sectors. We will ensure our youth in rural areas get equal opportunities to shine
- ▶ Committed to protect rights of displaced families of POJK, WPRs, tribals, deprived sections, Valmikis

cultural significance of Jhiri Mela, the Lieutenant Governor said the annual event reminds us about the sacrifices of our farming families and their vital role in serving and nurturing humanity.

"Jhiri Mela symbolizes cultural unity of India and the tradition tied in the thread of social values provides an opportunity to the people to learn about our heritage, culture, art and craft," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor shared the resolve of the government, under the guidance of Prime Minister

Narendra Modi, to transform the agriculture sector.

"Empowering farmers of the Union Territory of J&K is my mission and we have taken strategic steps to accelerate transformation in agriculture & allied sectors. We will ensure our youth in rural areas get equal opportunities to shine," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor also reiterated his commitment to protect the rights of displaced families of POJK, West Pakistan Refugees, tribals, Valmikis and

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## Terrorists now feel unsafe in their homes: Modi

'Indecisiveness had kept Kashmir mired in violence for 7 decades'



**STATE TIMES NEWS**

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday asserted that terrorists now do not feel safe in their homes unlike the rule of previous governments when terrorism made people feel unsafe.

Delivering the keynote address at the HT Leadership Summit here, the prime minister said the times have changed.

Modi said he saw reports

of the 26/11 Mumbai terror attack at an exhibition at the summit.

"There was a time when the people felt unsafe in their own houses and cities due to the terror sponsored by the neighbouring countries. However, now the times have changed and terrorists in their own houses don't feel safe," he said.

The prime minister said that at the exhibition he saw old news clippings

about the merger of Kashmir with India and experienced the same excitement the people of the country felt in October 1947.

"At that moment I realised how indecisiveness had kept Kashmir mired in violence for seven decades," he said.

Modi noted it is heartening that these days news of record voting in the elections in Jammu and Kashmir is appearing in papers.

Referring to his participation in the first Bodoland Mohotsav on Friday, Modi said it was a great achievement when the youth and people had given up violence after five decades and were celebrating a cultural event in Delhi.

He added that the lives of the people transformed after the 2020 Bodo Peace Accord.

## Those dreaming of J&K's independence unaware of ground realities: Farooq

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Asserting that Jammu and Kashmir will remain an integral part of India, National Conference president Farooq Abdullah on Saturday said those nurturing illogical dreams of independence should shun it as they are unaware of the ground realities.

The veteran politician said the fact that the Indian cricket team is not likely to visit Pakistan for the Champions Trophy early next year shows the strained relations between the two countries.

Talking to reporters on the sidelines of a private function here, Abdullah also expressed grief over the



death of children in a fire at a medical college in Uttar Pradesh's Jhansi district and demanded a thorough investigation into the tragic incident. Asked about the Oxford University's debating society Oxford Union

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## CS calls for enhanced wayside amenities, robust governance to develop tourist destinations

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, on Saturday chaired a meeting to review the status and availability of wayside amenities along the National Highway and roads leading to prominent tourist destinations across the Union Territory.

Focussing on tourist convenience, the Chief Secretary reviewed the availability of toilet facilities along major tourist routes. Commissioner Secretary Tourism, Yasha Mudgal, apprised him of the construction status of mobile and bio-toilets during the current financial year.



Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo chairing a meeting in Jammu.

The Chief Secretary stressed the importance of their proper maintenance and adherence to minimal operational standards.

Atal Dulloo called upon agencies such as the National Highways

Authority of India (NHAI), National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL), and others to formulate a comprehensive plan for establishing and maintaining wayside amenities.

The meeting also addressed the functioning of various Development Authorities in the Union Territory. A presentation by Yasha Mudgal highlighted key challenges faced by the Development Authorities in Jammu and Kashmir, including

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## 2,268 Revenue cases settled amicably in Special Lok Adalat

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

SRINAGAR: Under the patronage of Justice Tashi Rabstan, Chief Justice, High Court of J&K and Ladakh (Patron-in-Chief, J&K Legal Services Authority) and under the dynamic leadership of Justice Atul Sreedharan, Executive Chairman, J&K Legal Services Authority as well as under the guidance of Justice Rajnesh Oswal, Chairperson, High Court Legal Services Committee, a Special Lok Adalat was organized throughout the UT of J&K on Saturday with special emphasis on amicable settlement of Revenue Cases

that were pending disposal before various courts in UT of J&K. This was the 11th Special Lok Adalat of the current calendar year.

As per the data received from various District Legal Services Authorities across the UT of J&K, a total of 2388 cases were taken up in the Special Lok Adalat, out of which 2268 cases were amicably settled involving a total amount of Rs.2,44,91,500 giving a huge relief to the litigants.

Amit Kumar Gupta, Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority applauded the efforts

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## CJI expresses concern over 'exodus of young talent' from legal practice

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

NEW DELHI: Chief Justice of India (CJI) Sanjiv Khanna has expressed concern over the "exodus of young talent" from litigation practice and said there is a need to ensure their financial and social security.

Speaking at the "Felicitation Function" organised by the Bar Council of India, Khanna said there is a need to create a minimum remuneration standard for young advocates in the first few years of their career.

"The exodus of young talent from litigation practice is not merely about personal choice rather it is symptomatic of the structural issues, such as meagre financial and social security in the profession, especially for the first-generation lawyers.

"To attract the community of young lawyers dedicated to serving the public, we must work towards making the profession a more conducive space, address entry-level barriers and promote support," the CJI said.

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## Rahul makes promises, flies abroad; only BJP fulfils what it guarantees: Shah

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

MADHUPUR (JHARKHAND): Taking potshots at the Congress, Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday claimed that the party's leader Rahul Gandhi believes in flying abroad after making promises, while it is only the BJP that fulfils what its guarantees.

Addressing a rally at Madhupur in Deogarh district, the Union Home Minister said that while terrorists not only attacked India but also enjoyed biryani after killing people during the UPA rule, Prime Minister Narendra Modi wiped out terrorists through surgical and air strikes.

"Rahul baba makes promises one after another, but after making promises he flies abroad... But on the other hand, PM Modi's promise is like one etched on



stone (patthar ki lakeer). He fulfils what he promises. BJP fulfils its guarantees and only we can shape Jharkhand. The Congress, JMM and RJD can never work in the interest of the state," he said.

Alleging that the ruling JMM-led coalition has turned infiltrators into its

'vote-bank', Shah declared that illegal immigration will be checked once the BJP is voted to power in the state.

"Infiltrators are posing a threat not only to the tribals but also to the state's youth by snatching jobs and fuelling crime. The Jharkhand High Court had directed to identify and deport infiltrators. While the Centre agreed, the Hemant Soren government in the state didn't," he claimed.

Shah said that the Jharkhand elections are not to change MLAs, the chief minister or the government but to shape the future of youth and poor and to check corruption.

He said that while Jharkhand powers the nation with coal, the people of the state have remained poor. Shah claimed that if the BJP

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## Jhansi hospital fire: 10 children dead, 16 battle for life



**STATE TIMES NEWS**

JHANSI (UP): At least 10 children died in a fire that engulfed the children's ward of a medical college in Uttar Pradesh's Jhansi district,

officials said, as 16 others injured battled for life on Saturday.

District Magistrate (DM) Avinash Kumar told reporters

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## NHRC notice to UP Govt, DGP

NEW DELHI: The NHRC on Saturday said it has issued a notice to the Uttar Pradesh government and the state's police chief in connection with a fire at the children's ward of a medical college in Jhansi that claimed the lives of 10 newborns.

Describing reports of the incident as "disturbing", the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has sought a detailed report within a week. The commission observed that the

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## Engagement as disengagement; nothing more, nothing less: EAM on eastern Ladakh row

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

NEW DELHI: The disengagement part of the "problem" with China along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh has been addressed with last month's understanding and the next focus would be on de-escalation, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said on Saturday.

Jaishankar described as a "reasonable proposition" to expect some improvement in the relations between India and China following the last round of disengagement but hesitated to say that there could be a reset of the ties.

"I see disengagement as disengagement; nothing more, nothing less. If you look at our current situation with China, we have an issue

where our troops are uncomfortably close along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) which required us to disengage," he said at the Hindustan Times Leadership Summit.

"And this last understanding of October 21 is the last one of the disengagement agreements. So with its implementation the disengagement part of the problem is addressed," he said.

Jaishankar's remarks came in response to a question on whether the disengagement of troops by the two sides last month was the beginning of a reset of ties between India and China.

The external affairs minister said the current situation of the relationship does not warrant such a conclusion.



The Indian and Chinese militaries completed the disengagement exercise in Demchok and Depsang in eastern Ladakh along the LAC last month after the two sides reached an agreement to resolve the festering border row.

The two sides also resumed patrolling activities in the

two areas after a gap of almost four-and-a-half years.

In his remarks, Jaishankar said de-escalation would be the next step following the disengagement process.

"Where the disengagement will lead us, it is a reasonable proposition that there will be some improvement in the ties," he said at the same

time.

On the overall India-China ties, Jaishankar delved into various factors and said it is a "complicated" relationship.

To a separate question, the external affairs minister said the world is looking at India's political stability, especially at a time when most countries in the world are facing political instability.

"At such a time, being elected three times in a row in a democracy is not an ordinary thing," he said about the result of the parliamentary elections this year.

On Republican leader Donald Trump's victory in the US presidential election, Jaishankar said it reflected a lot about the US. "This US election tells us a lot

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## Snowfall in Gulmarg, rains lash Kashmir plains



**STATE TIMES NEWS**

SRINAGAR: Gulmarg, a tourist destination in Kashmir popular for skiing, received the season's first snowfall on Saturday, while rains lashed the plains, officials said.

The snowfall began early in the morning and continued intermittently, blanketing the meadows of the destination with about an inch of

snow, they said.

Several other areas in the higher reaches of the valley, including Gurez in Bandipora district, Machil in Kupwara, Mughal Road in Shopian, and other locations, also recorded fresh snowfall, the officials added.

Meanwhile, many parts of the plains, including Srinagar, experienced

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**WEATHER**

Temperature (Jammu)  
Max: 23.4°C Min: 11.8°C

Humidity  
Max: 87 Min: 76

Temperature (Srinagar)  
Max: 12.2°C Min: 4.2°C

Humidity  
Max: 84 Min: 84

Sunset : 17:32 Hours  
Sunrise : 06:56 Hours