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03 Cardiac health hazards of dense fog and harsh winters-innocuous and unanticipated: Dr Sushil

10 35th District Samba Volleyball Championship: Barjani Club lifts men, Abhyaas Club women's trophies

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Hamara Sankalp Viksit Bharat

Modi Sarkar ki Guarantee

India becoming world's manufacturing hub

Over 200 mobile manufacturing units in the country now as compared to two in 2014; India is the second largest mobile manufacturing country in the world



Forces working in tandem to defeat neighbouring country's attempts to disrupt peace in J&K: LG

'UT witnesses highest footfall of tourists after independence'



LG Manoj Sinha addressing during Armed Forces Veterans' Day at Raj Bhawan on Sunday.

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Reiterating that terrorism is breathing its last breath, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Sunday said the Police, Army, CAPP's are working in coordination to defeat the nefarious attempts of the neighboring country to disrupt peace in Jammu Kashmir.

"I am confident that our ex-

servicemen will continue to make their important contribution in the fight against terrorism", the Lt Governor said while interacting with Veterans, Veer Naris and Next of Kins of the brave-hearts of Armed Forces on the occasion of Armed Forces Veterans' Day at Raj Bhawan.

"The nation will forever

remain indebted to our soldiers, who are safeguarding the unity, integrity and sovereignty of the country. Welfare of the ex-servicemen is top priority of the administration," the Lt Governor said while paying tributes to the brave martyrs.

"J&K has witnessed drastic improvements in the last four years, for which you all have

worked throughout the life. Today, Jammu Kashmir is marching ahead on the path of growth and prosperity. After Independence, J&K has seen the highest footfall of tourists, he said.

He appealed to all citizens to generously contribute towards the welfare of ex-Servicemen and Veer Naris. It is our collective responsibility and our foremost duty to ensure that our veterans and the families of our martyrs live a life of dignity, he said.

He assured every support from the administration in terms of availability of land for Sainik Colonies in both regions of Kashmir and Jammu. We are also determined to increase the ex-gratia as a mark of

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Army, SFs dealing proxy war in J&K with professional approach: Gen Pande



STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Without naming Pakistan, Army Chief Gen Manoj Pande said on Sunday the Army along with other security forces are dealing with the "proxy war" in Jammu and Kashmir with a professional approach.

"In combating proxy war in the hinterland, our profes-

sional approach and synergized operations with other security forces continue," he said on the eve of the Army Day.

The Indian Army continues to maintain a "robust posture" at the borders and is prepared to protect the country's territorial integrity at "all costs", he said, amid the

Northern border stable but 'not normal': Northern Command Chief

SRINAGAR: The northern border is stable but "not normal", a top Army commander said on Sunday, referring to the situation along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the Ladakh region.

Lieutenant General Upendra Dwivedi, the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Northern Command, said five of the seven friction points in eastern Ladakh, where the Indian Army and the Chinese PLA are locked in a standoff since May 2020, have been resolved and talks are underway for the remaining areas.

"The northern border area is stable but it is not normal or I can say it's sensitive," he told reporters here.

Apparently referring to Pakistan, the Army commander said the neighbouring country has orchestrated the terrorist attacks in the Poonch-Rajouri region

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over three-year festering border row with China in eastern Ladakh.

Gen Pande said the force is fully committed with an "unwavering resolve" to counter any security threat,

asserting that its fundamental character, core ethos and professionalism will enable it to live up to the expectations of citizens. He said the transition towards

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Govt calls for nominations for first-ever 'Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar'

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: The government on Sunday called for nominations for 'Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar', the first-ever national science awards from individuals or teams in various fields of science, technology and technology-led innovation.

The awards, given across four categories, were instituted last year after scrapping more than 300 awards given by different institutions, and will comprise a medal and a citation but no cash component.

The last date for filing nominations is February 28, which is celebrated as National Science Day. The awards will be announced on May 11, National Technology Day, which is the anniversary of the Pokhran-II nuclear tests.

The awards will be conferred on August 23, National Space Day to commemorate Chandrayaan-3 mission's soft landing on the moon.

A total of 56 awards will be given in four

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'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' stands for unity: Modi

STATE TIMES NEWS

CHENNAI/DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday said the festival of Pongal reflects the national spirit of 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' and the same emotive connect could be witnessed in Kashi-Tamil and Saurashtra-Tamil Sangamam.

In his address at the Pongal celebrations held at the residence of Union Minister L Murugan in the national capital, Modi said festive fervour marked every home in Tamil Nadu and wished joy, prosperity and contentment in

the lives of all the people.

Drawing similarities to India's diversity with 'Kalam,' the prime minister said when every corner of the country connects emotionally with each other, the nation's strength appears in a new form.

Considered as a welcome symbol and a sign of auspiciousness, Kalam is a popular art form, which involves making drawings on the ground -- at the entrance portion to the house -- using a variety of rice flour.

Modi said: "The festival of Pongal reflects the national spirit of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat." The same spirit can be witnessed in the tradition started by

Kashi-Tamil Sangamam and Saurashtra-Tamil Sangamam which records enthusiastic participation of Tamil people in large numbers.

The prime minister said, "This feeling of unity is the biggest force to build a Viksit Bharat by 2047. The main element of the Panch Pran that I have invoked from the Red Fort is to energize the unity of the country and to strengthen the unity."

Quoting saint poet Thiruvalluvar, the prime minister underscored

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Forest fire erupts in Poonch, Army launches operation

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: A massive fire broke out in the forest area in Poonch district, prompting the Army to launch an operation to bring the fire under control with the help of other security agencies, they said.

"Prompt and speedy response of the Indian Army saved many lives and infrastructure, when a massive forest fire broke near Dera Ki Gali and endangered civil and Army infrastructure. With coordinated and synergistic efforts of civil agencies and security forces, the fire was brought under control," Defence PRO, Jammu, said in a post on X. The troops were seen engaged

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Winter vacations for Summer Zone of Jammu Division extended

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Directorate of School Education Jammu has announced a further extension of winter vacations for schools located in the Summer Zone of Jammu Division.

"In continuation to this office order NO.22-DSEJ of 2024 dated January 6, 2024, the winter vacations of Government / Private recognized schools are further extended till January 17, 2024 upto Class 8th only," reads an order issued by Director School Education Jammu.

It is further ordered that the timing of the schools shall be from 11:00 AM to 03:00 PM during the extended vacations.

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court has directed the Centre to consider whether the compensation amounts in case of death and grievous injury in hit-and-run accidents can be enhanced annually.

The top court asked the government to an appropriate decision within eight weeks and posted the matter for further consideration on April 22.

The apex court noted that the Motor Vehicles (MV) Act,

1988 provides that in case of death of any person resulting from hit-and-run accident, a compensation of Rs 2 lakh or such higher amount as may be prescribed by the central government shall be paid and in case of grievous injury, the compensation amount is Rs 50,000.

The top court also asked the police to inform the family members of victims of such accidents about the compensation scheme under the MV Act.

A bench of Justices A S

Oka and Pankaj Mithal noted in its order that as per the year-wise reports published by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, 55,942 hit-and-run accidents were reported in 2016, while in 2022, the figure stood at 67,387.

"It is evident from records published by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways of the Government of India from 2016-2022 that there were 55,942 hit and run motor accidents in 2016, which

increased to 65,186 in 2017, 69,621 in 2018, and 69,621 in 2019. During COVID-19 period, the number of accidents decreased," it said.

The bench also noted an answer given by the road transport and highways minister in the Lok Sabha in March last year.

"The answer records that in the last five years, there were 660 deaths in hit-and-run cases, and there were 113 injury cases for which

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Mann, Kejriwal's corruption 'Jugalbandhi' going on: Chugh

STATE TIMES NEWS
CHANDIGARH: Bharatiya Janata Party's National General Secretary Tarun Chugh on Sunday said that the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), which beats the drum of honesty, is a staunchly corrupt party.

Talking to the media, he said the leaders of Aam Aadmi Party, which came in the name of ending corruption and Jan Lokpal, are today immersed in corruption.

Chugh said that in the past



two years, Aam Aadmi Party has promoted mafiaism in Punjab.

"Only Aam Aadmi Party

leaders, ministers and MLAs expose the corruption of their government. This is the

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Jammu reels under extreme cold, Srinagar records -4.2 degrees Celsius

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU/SRINAGAR: Cold wave conditions returned to Kashmir as the mercury plunged several degrees below freezing point after a feeble western disturbance on Saturday, officials said on Sunday.

A dry and largely snowless winter in Kashmir has resulted in freezing nights and warmer than usual days as Srinagar's day temperatures were over eight degrees above the normal for this time of the year, officials said here.

Srinagar city recorded a minimum temperature of minus 4.2 degrees Celsius on Saturday night, 4.4 degrees



less than Friday's 0.2 degrees Celsius.

Jammu, the winter capital of Jammu and Kashmir, recorded the coldest night of the season with the minimum temperature plummeting 4.5 notches below normal to settle at 2.5 degrees Celsius,

they said.

The maximum temperature in Jammu also dipped to settle at 8.9 degrees Celsius, which was 9 degrees Celsius below normal for this part of the season. The maximum temperature in the city was found to be lower than

Gulmarg, Pahalgam, Kokernag, Sonamarg, Leh, Drass and Srinagar.

Jammu is reeling under extreme severe cold wave over the past fortnight with the mercury hovering several notches below normal due to foggy conditions in the morning hours and absence of the Sun during the day.

Foggy weather has also hit the rail and air traffic, causing inconvenience to the passengers.

Samba recorded a minimum temperature of 3 degrees Celsius and a maximum temperature of 13 degrees Celsius, the MeT department said.

Rajouri recorded the high-

est temperature in Jammu and Kashmir with a maximum temperature of 22.2 degrees Celsius. It was followed by Udhampur with a maximum temperature of 22.1 degrees Celsius.

Banihal along the Jammu-Srinagar national highway recorded a maximum of 20.8 degrees Celsius, which is 10.5 degrees Celsius above normal. However, the night temperature in the highway town was minus 0.8 degrees Celsius.

Katra, the base camp for pilgrims visiting the Mata Vaishno Devi shrine in Reasi district, recorded a maximum of 20.9 degrees

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Water level in Jhelum hits lowest

SRINAGAR: The water level in the Jhelum river has hit the lowest due to a prolonged dry spell in Kashmir, officials said here on Sunday.

"River Jhelum was flowing at -0.75 feet at Sangam (Anantnag district) and -0.86 feet at Asham (Bandipora district) on Sunday morning. This is the lowest water level in the river," the officials said.

It had dropped to this level at Sangam in November 2017, they said. Kashmir has been going through a prolonged dry spell this winter with very little snowfall and a 79 per cent deficit in rainfall was recorded for December while there has been no precipitation in most parts of the valley in the first fortnight of January. Gulmarg ski resort, which used to be covered by snow at this time of the season, is dry.

There has been no snowfall in most plain areas of Kashmir, while the upper reaches of the valley have received lesser than usual amount of snow. Due to the dry weather, a large number of bushfires have been reported from the hilly areas across the valley. The Forest Department has issued an advisory to people living in the forest areas.

WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 9.6°C Min: 2.5°C

Humidity
Max: 100 Min: 91

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 14.6°C Min: -4.2°C

Humidity
Max: 95 Min: 54

Sunset: ---:-- Hours
Sunrise: ---:-- Hours