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STATE TIMES

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J.K. PUBLIC SCHOOL
KUNJWANI, JAMMU
The School with a Difference

SOWING SKILLS

SHAPING INDIA

03 BRO Chief briefs Dr Jitendra about Chattergala, other Udhampur LS constituency projects

09 Jammu people urged to pay water Tax by March 31, 2024

10 J&K's maiden volleyball league in April

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Hamara sankalp Viksit Bharat

94,680 youth provided entrepreneurship and self-employment opportunities in a day J&K creates record by distributing sanction letters to set up new units, start-ups: LG



LG Manoj Sinha speaking during a function organised by J&K Bank to celebrate the achievements of Ghar-Ghar KCC Abhiyaan and Swarozgar Utsav in Jammu on Wednesday.

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday scripted a new record by providing entrepreneurship and self-employment opportunities to 94,680 youth in a single day.

"Today, J&K has created a new record by distributing sanction letters to set up new units and startups that will fulfill dreams of youth and their aspiration of being a job creator and not a job seeker," Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said while presiding over a function at the Convention Centre, just two days before the celebration of 75th Republic Day.

He said this is a momentous occasion also marks a significant leap forward in transforming the Union Territory's economic landscape.

The Lt Governor congratulated the Jammu Kashmir Bank for its endeavour to strengthen the spirit of Ghar Ghar KCC Abhiyaan and Swarozgar Utsav - two ongoing campaigns aimed at financial empowerment of farmers and the youth.

He said the J&K Bank is the common man's Bank and is playing its important role for the betterment of common people.

Swarozgar Utsav for entrepreneurship and self-employment covered all

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SC gets new judge; to function with full strength now

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: Karnataka High Court Chief Justice Prasanna B Varale was on Wednesday appointed as a judge of the Supreme Court, according to a government notification.

Once he takes oath, the top court will attain its full strength of 34 judges, including the Chief Justice of India.

While recommending his name earlier this month, the Supreme Court Collegium said it took into consideration the fact that he is among the senior-most high court judges and is the only HC chief justice from the Scheduled Caste.

He would become the third sitting apex court judge from a Scheduled Caste community. The others are Justices B R Gavai and C T Ravikumar.

A vacancy arose in the

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Republic Day 2024: Full dress rehearsal held at M A Stadium

Div Com Jammu inspects Parade, takes salute at impressive march past



Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Ramesh Kumar taking salute at the march past during full dress rehearsal at MA Stadium in Jammu on Wednesday. (More pics on Pg-10)

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The full dress rehearsal for UT level celebration of Republic Day 2024 was held at M A Stadium Jammu, on Wednesday.

The parade consisted of men and women contingents drawn from Army, BSF, CRPF, JKP, JKAP, SSB, NCC cadets, Ex servicemen, Bharat Scouts & Guides and

school students. Pipe and Brass bands of BSF JKP, JKAP and Army played tunes to the march past.

Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Ramesh Kumar inspected the Parade and took the salute at the impressive March Past.

School children and artists of J&K Academy of Art Culture and Languages presented a colorful cultural programme featuring theme based presentations. Dare Devils of Jammu and Kashmir Police mesmerised the audience by their spectacular and thrilling performances.

Aerobatics and display of different sports were also presented by athletes and sportspersons of J&K

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CBI arrests hospital employee in bribery case in Sopore

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: The CBI on Wednesday arrested a hospital employee in connection with a bribery case in Baramulla district, the agency said.

The CBI has arrested an official of Sub-District Hospital, Sopore, in the north Kashmir district, in a bribery case related to issuance of date of birth certificate, the investigating agency said in a statement.

A case was registered on a complaint against an official working in the date of birth section of the Sub-District Hospital,

Sopore, on the allegations of demanding a bribe from the complainant for issuance of birth certificate in favour of his daughter, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) said.

It was further alleged that the accused initially demanded a bribe of Rs 5,000 which was reduced to Rs 3,600 after negotiation, the statement said.

The CBI caught the accused after accepting a bribe of Rs 36,000 from the complainant through online transaction, the agency said.

Chugh slams Farooq for justifying his father's arrest during Nehru era

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The BJP on Wednesday hit out at National Conference chief Farooq Abdullah for justifying his father Sheikh Abdullah's arrest during Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru's era and said "in his greed for power, he was even prepared to disown his father".

Reacting to the former chief minister's remarks, BJP national general secretary Tarun Chugh warned the people against such people who have been playing a double game with Jammu and Kashmir for their vested political interests.



"My father was kept in jail for 13 years by Jawahar Lal Nehru. I have never said that Jawahar Lal has done this wrong. I have been saying that he may have a better understanding," Abdullah said while speaking at an event in Mumbai to commemorate the birth centenary celebrations of Madhu Dandavate on Sunday.

"It was pure political opportunism of Farooq Abdullah in his greed for power that he was even prepared to disown his father," Chugh said.

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader said it is a matter of "shame and disgrace" for the entire people of Jammu and Kashmir that the National Conference patron is justifying his father's arrest during the Nehru era.

He warned the people of Jammu and Kashmir against those playing a double game for their political interests, labelling the National Conference (NC) president as a "power-hungry" individual willing to disown his father.

Highlighting the transformative era under Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led government, Chugh urged the relegation of Muftis and Abdullahs to oblivion, envisioning a new dawn for Jammu and Kashmir.

"Modi-led government has ushered in a new era of

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Several persons booked in Rajouri, Reasi for objectionable posts related to Ram temple event

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Several people in Rajouri and Reasi districts have been booked for allegedly posting "objectionable content" related to the consecration ceremony of Ram temple in Ayodhya on social media, police officials said.

SSP Reasi Amit Gupta advised people to refrain from posting any objectionable content on social media that disturbs the peace and harmony in the area.

"All social media platforms are being watched and all posts and comments will be monitored. Strict action will be taken against a person who posts anything that is provocative and spreads hatred," SSP said.

In a similar case in Reasi, police registered another case against a person for allegedly posting "objectionable content" on social media, police said.

SSP Reasi Amit Gupta advised people to refrain from posting any objectionable content on social media that disturbs the peace and harmony in the area.

"All social media platforms are being watched and all posts and comments will be monitored. Strict action will be taken against a person who posts anything that is provocative and spreads hatred," SSP said.

Cold wave intensifies in Kashmir valley

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Bandipora was the coldest recorded place in Jammu and Kashmir with the minimum temperature in the north Kashmir district falling nearly eight degrees below freezing point, officials said on Wednesday.

Bandipora recorded a low of minus 7.9 degrees Celsius followed by Pulwama in south Kashmir at minus 7.3 degrees Celsius and Shopian at minus 6.9 degrees Celsius, the officials said.

Srinagar city recorded a minimum temperature of minus 5.3 degrees Celsius on Tuesday night, marginally down from previous night's minus 5.3 degrees Celsius, the officials said. Pahalgam in south Kashmir's Anantnag district,

Scheam India signs Rs 73 Cr investment pact with JKDCF

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Scheam India has signed an agreement with the Jammu and Kashmir Dairy Cooperative Federation and agro cooperatives (FPOs) to invest Rs 73 crore to boost the dairy infrastructure and entrepreneurship in J&K and Ladakh.

The memorandum of understanding (MOU) was signed by Vikrant Dogra, Chairman of Jammu and Kashmir Dairy Coop Federation Limited

(JKDCF), UNATI Multistate Cooperative and Nikhil Gowda Kedambadi of Scheam India.

"The MoU has been signed to revolutionize the dairy infrastructure and entrepreneurship in Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh, fostering a conducive environment for startups in the dairy cooperative sector," an official said.

Kedambadi highlighted the significance of the recently held startup conclave Uhay

in Jammu, paving the way for this transformative agreement.

"The MOU has been done while recognizing the importance of the dairy cooperative sector and FPO ecosystem, which has hugely flourished in union territory in the last 2-3 years," he said.

The MOU aims to bring parity to cooperatives (FPOs), enabling them to compete in the open market and contributing to

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Tourist from Odisha killed in car accident in Dakum

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: A tourist from Odisha was killed while three others sustained injuries when their car met with an accident in Anantnag district on Wednesday, officials said.

The incident took place in Dakum area of the south Kashmir district, they said.

The injured tourists were taken to a nearby hospital from where they were referred to the GMC Hospital at Anantnag, officials said.

Pakistan making continuous attempts to revive terrorism in parts of J&K: DGP 'Ensure optimum security arrangements at all R-Day venues'

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Saying that Pakistan and its agencies are making continuous attempts to revive terrorism in parts of Jammu and Kashmir, Director General of Police R.R Swain on Wednesday called for ensuring the highest level of security arrangements and further strengthening the security grids.

Chairing a high-level joint security meeting to review the preparedness in Kashmir Zone regarding the forth-



DGP R.R Swain chairing joint security meeting at Srinagar.

coming Republic Day, the DGP said that serious attempts are being made by handlers from across the bor-

der to infiltrate terrorists into Jammu and Kashmir. Underlining the

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GoC 15 Corps visits forward areas in J&K, reviews operational preparedness

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: A senior army officer visited forward areas along the Line of Control (LoC) in Gurez sector of Jammu and Kashmir to review the preparedness of the counter-infiltration grid ahead of Republic Day, officials said here on Wednesday.

General officer Commanding of the Army's 15 Corps Lt Gen Rajiv Ghai visited the forward areas in Gurez sector of Bandipora district on Tuesday to review counter-infiltration grid and operational preparedness, they said.

Security officials are concerned over the possibility of



GoC 15 Corps Lt Gen Rajiv Ghai during visit to a forward area in Gurez sector.

infiltration of terrorists into the valley due to lack of adequate snowfall in higher reaches of Kashmir this winter.

The mountain passes along

the LoC usually are blocked during the winter months due to heavy snowfall, reducing the chances of infiltration of terrorists. However, dry winter has prompted the

Army Commander lauds troops for ensuring top-notch security in J&K

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Northern Army Commander Lieutenant General Upendra Dwivedi has reviewed the operational preparedness of troops in Jammu and Kashmir's Udhampur.

"Lt Gen Upendra Dwivedi, Army Commander Northern Command visited Logistic depot at Udhampur to review safety, security and efficiency of the depot contributing to overall readiness of Dhruva Command", the Northern Command said in a post on X on Tuesday.

The Army Commander also commended troops for ensuring top-notch security, contributing significantly to operational preparedness of field formations and strict adherence to safety protocols.

counter-infiltration grid to step up the vigil along the LoC.

Lt Gen Ghai, during his interaction with the troops,

exhorted them to remain "in a high state of operational readiness" in extreme weather conditions and terrain.

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Union Cabinet hails Modi as peoples' leader, pioneer of new era after Ram Temple consecration

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: The Union Cabinet on Wednesday lauded Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the successful consecration ceremony at Ram temple in Ayodhya, saying the love and affection shown by the people towards him have established him as a "Jan Nayak".

A resolution read out by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh at the meeting of the Union Cabinet also said the "people's movement" for the Ram temple has heralded a new narrative and described Modi as a pioneer of a new era.

Lord Ram's idol was consecrated at the Ayodhya temple on Monday in a landmark event led by Prime Minister Modi.

"In 1947, the body of the country attained independence but 'pran pratishtha' of its soul took place on January 22, 2024," read the resolution adopted by the Cabinet.

"The kind of love you have received from the people has established you as 'peoples' leader' (Jan Nayak). But, after the ushering in of the new era, you have also emerged as the pioneer of

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WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 11.3°C Min: 2.3°C

Humidity
Max: 90 Min: 89

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 11.6°C Min: -5.3°C

Humidity
Max: 85 Min: 60

Sunset: 17:54 Hours
Sunrise: 07:30 Hours