

05 Central team spends 6 hours in Badhaal village hit by mysterious deaths

09 Dip at Sangam, 'Yagya', attending to pilgrims: A day inside 'Akhadas' at Maha Kumbh

10 VAIK felicitates players for outstanding performance at Senior National Volleyball Championship

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Trump takes oath as US President, says America's 'golden age' has just begun

■ AGENCY

WASHINGTON: Donald J Trump on Monday took oath for a second term as the United States President, announcing a raft of executive decisions, saying that the "golden age" of America had just begun.

In a fiery inaugural address, the 47th US president described January 20 as the "liberation day" and declared that "America's decline is over" as changes will come "very quickly".

"America will reclaim its rightful place as the greatest, most powerful, most respected nation on earth, inspiring the awe and admiration from the entire world," he said.

Trump storms back to the White House for the second term with a strongman persona and a vision of an all-powerful presidency with a promise to aggressively reset US policies in a range of domains including immigration, tariffs and energy.

The new US president listed a series of actions he would roll out immediately including declaring a nation-



al emergency at the US-Mexico border, renaming the Gulf of Mexico as the Gulf of America, and that the US would take back the Panama Canal.

"From this day forward, our country will flourish and be respected again all over the world. We will be the envy of every nation, and we will not allow ourselves to be taken advantage of any longer," Trump said.

The Republican leader vowed to put America "first" and that the country would

"flourish and be respected" under his leadership as a "peacemaker and a unifier".

The American dream will soon be back and thriving like never before, he said.

"After years and years of illegal and unconstitutional restriction of expression, I will also sign an executive order to stop all censorship and bring back free speech to America," he said.

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar attended the inauguration ceremony as Prime Minister Narendra

Modi's special envoy.

"The scales of justice will be rebalanced. The vicious, violent and unfair weaponisation of the Justice Department and government will end," Trump said.

In his remarks, Trump said America will not be "conquered or intimidated".

"We will not fail. From this day on, the United States of America will be a free, sovereign and independent nation," he says.

"The future is ours, and our golden age has just begun."

In his address, Trump also pledged to increase domestic oil production, establish a government entity to collect promised tariffs and revoke the programme promoting electric vehicles.

JD Vance was sworn in as the vice president ahead of Trump.

Trump registered a spectacular victory over his Democratic rival Kamala Harris in the November 5 presidential election, defying two assassination attempts, two presidential

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Security beefed up ahead of R-Day in Jammu region

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Security has been beefed up in Jammu ahead of Republic Day celebrations, with the police making the M A Stadium, the main venue of the function, out of bounds for public as a precautionary measure.

The security wing of the Jammu and Kashmir Police has taken control of the stadium, where Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha will preside over the Republic Day function with Chief Minister Omar Abdullah as the chief guest.

"The security has been beefed up ahead of

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J&K Election Commission concludes annual revision of Panchayat Electoral Rolls

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The J&K Election Commission, on Monday concluded annual revision of Panchayat Electoral Rolls with publication of Final Electoral Rolls, with January, 1st 2025 as qualifying date.

During the annual revision of Panchayat Electoral Rolls, which was started on 11-11-2024 with the publication of draft electoral rolls, several additions, deletions and changes in the entries

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Govt re-constitutes Board of Directors of SIDCO, SICOP, KVIB among 6 departments

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The government on Monday reconstituted the Board of Directors of J&K State Industrial Development Corporation Limited (SIDCO), J&K Small Scale Industries Development Corporation Limited (SICOP), Jammu and Kashmir Cements Limited (JKCL), Jammu and Kashmir Handicrafts and Handloom Corporation (JKHHC), Jammu and Kashmir Industries Limited (JKIL) and Jammu and

Kashmir Khadi & Village Industries Board (KVIB) in supersession of all previous orders issued.

Board of Directors of Jammu and Kashmir Small-Scale Industries

Additional Secretary & Development Commissioner, MSME, Government of India, New Delhi, Director, MSME- Government of India, New Delhi., Administrative Secretary, Planning Development and Monitoring

Department, Director General, Industries & Commerce, Jammu, Director, Industries & Commerce, Kashmir, Managing Director, J&K SICOP, Managing Director, J&K SIDCO, and

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CB books 3 Jammu Flour Mills' employees for multi-crore embezzlement

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Crime Branch (CB) has booked three employees of M/S Jammu Flour Mills for multi-crore embezzlement by committing criminal breach of trust and adopting peculiar modus-operandi.

"A written complaint was received in Crime Branch (EOW) Jammu from complainant Arun Mahajan, Managing Partner, M/S Jammu Flour Mills, Gangyal, Jammu alleging therein that its three employ-

ees namely Dikshant Anand (Area Salesman), Narinder Chopra (Billing clerk) and Amit Sharma (Accountant) have committed serious financial irregularity and embezzlements by resorting to a well-planned criminal conspiracy, fraud and deceit involving Rs. 2 to Rs. 2.50 crores", a CB official said, adding that: "In the month of September, 2024, Moti Lal (Operations Manager) informed the complainant about suspicious

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LG Sinha registers himself for organ donation



SOTTO representatives handing over pledge certificate to LG Manoj Sinha.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday took pledge for Organ Donation by registering on Ayushman Bharat Organ Donation Registry of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India (notto.abdm.gov.in). The State Organ and

Tissue Transplant Organization (SOTTO) representatives, Dr Elias Sharma, Nodal Officer, Dr Sanjeev Puri, Joint Director and Irfan Ahmed Lone, Transplant Coordinator, visited Raj Bhawan and handed over the pledge certificate to the Lieutenant Governor: Sandeep Jain, President

and Monika Jain, General Secretary of Bharatiya Jain Sangathan, J&K were also present.

Earlier, the Lieutenant Governor has expressed his willingness for organ donation during a programme organised by Bharatiya Jain Sansthan, yesterday on 19th January.

Soldier martyred in Zaloora Sopore encounter

■ LG pays tribute

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: An Indian Army soldier was martyred following an overnight encounter with terrorists in Sopore area, officials said on Monday.

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha paid tributes to Swr Pangala Kartheek, who laid down his life in the line of duty in Sopore.

"I salute the supreme sacrifice of our Army braveheart Swr Pangala Kartheek. His valour and sacrifice will never be forgotten. The entire nation stands firmly with the family of the martyr in this hour of grief," the Lieutenant Governor said.

Sepoy Pangala Kartheek was injured in the exchange of fire with terrorists

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Shantmanu to head 5-member high level panel to monitor DPCs

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir Government has constituted a high-level panel led by Shantmanu,

Devansh gets addl charge of Mission Director, SBM (Urban)

Financial Commissioner (Additional Chief Secretary) Higher Education Department, for monitoring the conduct of the Departmental Promotional Committees (DPCs) across the departments in the Union Territory

of Jammu and Kashmir.

The Members of DPCs comprised of Shaleen Kabra, I A S, Financial

Commissioner (Additional Chief Secretary), Jal Shakti Department; Santosh D. Vaidya, IAS, Principal Secretary, Finance Department; M. Raju, IAS, Commissioner/Secretary, General Administration

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J&K Cabinet approves DA revision; recommends Assembly Session in March

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir Cabinet meeting convened on Monday under the chairmanship of Chief Minister Omar Abdullah approved several important administrative proposals.

One of the significant approvals was the revision of Dearness Allowance (DA) rates for government employees, pensioners, and family pensioners, effective from July 1, 2024. The cabinet also sanctioned the implementation of a 3-tier faculty structure in Government Dental College, Srinagar, and Indira Gandhi Government Dental College, Jammu, aligning with the staffing norms set by the



CM Omar Abdullah chairing Cabinet meeting in Jammu.

Dental Council of India (DCI).

Additionally, the Cabinet granted administrative approval to key proposals put forward by the Housing & Urban Development Department. These include: Dumpsite Remediation: Bio-

mining/bio-remediation of 11.00 lakh metric tons of legacy waste at Achan dumping site in Srinagar. The project is estimated to cost Rs. 60.50 crore, with Rs. 33.00 crore allocated from the 14th

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J&K Bank reports 26pc jump in profit to Rs 531 Cr for Oct-Dec qtr

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Jammu & Kashmir Bank on Monday reported a 26.2 per cent rise in net profit to Rs 531 crore for the October-December quarter of FY2024-25 compared to Rs 421.08 crore in the year-ago period.

A bank spokesman said that the financial institution is well on course to meet the annual profitability target.

"The Bank's net profit for

the first nine months of the current financial year has jumped 32.7 per cent YoY to Rs 1,497.92 crore compared to Rs 1,128.60 crore recorded for the same period last year, reflecting its sustained growth trajectory," he added.

Speaking about the bank's focus going forward, MD & CEO Amitava Chatterjee said the objective remains to scale up the growth.

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WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 20.1°C Min: 9.6°C

Humidity
Max: 85 Min: 67

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 9.7°C Min: -3.2°C

Humidity
Max: 97 Min: 57

Sunset : 17:51 Hours
Sunrise : 07:31 Hours