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J.K. PUBLIC SCHOOL
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SOWING SKILLS

SHAPING INDIA

03 Kashmiri Pandits' plight unique, rendered homeless in their own country: Dr Jitendra

08 CS for enforcing stringent containment measures to stop further loss of lives

09 HC takes cognizance of election of JKOA office bearers, issues notice to UOI, IOA

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LG terms North Eastern states as growth engines of country

J&K Raj Bhawan celebrates Foundation Day of Tripura, Meghalaya and Manipur



LG Manoj Sinha speaking at Foundation Day celebration event of Tripura, Meghalaya and Manipur at Raj Bhawan.

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Foundation Day of Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura was celebrated in J&K Raj Bhawan on Tuesday. Students, Security personnel and the people of Tripura, Meghalaya and Manipur living in J&K were the special invitees for the cultural programme celebrating the spirit of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat, organized to commemorate the occasion.

In his address, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha conveyed his hearty greetings and best wishes to the people of Tripura, Meghalaya and Manipur. He paid homage to the great personalities of the three states and remembered their significant contribution in nation building. The Lieutenant Governor also spoke on the socio-economic transformational jour-

ney of North Eastern States, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He said the rapid and inclusive development has connected the aspirations of the people of the North East to the aspirations of the nation. "Tripura, Meghalaya and Manipur are the treasure troves of India's rich traditions, culture, folk art & crafts. I can say with immense pride that today the North Eastern States have emerged as growth engines of the country and are inspiring the entire society through their spiritual ideals and cultural values. May these blessed states continue to achieve new heights of growth, progress, and development. I wish the people happiness, peace, and prosperity in the years to come," the Lieutenant Governor said.

Visits grieving families; promises justice, support

Mystery behind 17 deaths in Rajouri will be resolved soon: Omar

STATE TIMES NEWS
RAJOURI: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Tuesday visited Badhaal village to meet the families of the 17 individuals who tragically lost their lives, impacting three families. Expressing profound grief, the Chief Minister extended his condolences and assured the bereaved families of full support and assistance by his government.



CM Omar Abdullah visiting grieving Badhaal families on Tuesday.

He was accompanied by Cabinet Minister Javed Rana and MLA Budhal, Javed Iqbal Choudhary, during the visit. The Chief Minister stressed that the government's priority is to ensure the prevention of such incidents in the future and immediate end to a spate of unfortunate deaths. He assured the public that a detailed investigation is underway to determine the cause of the tragedy.

Inter-ministerial team continues probe, collects samples

RAJOURI/JAMMU: A high level inter-ministerial team continued its probe for the second day on Tuesday to ascertain the cause of death of 17 members of three families in Badhaal village of Rajouri district, officials said. The central team headed by a director-rank officer in the Ministry of Home Affairs spent nearly six hours in the village on Monday as part of the probe. The team returned to Badhaal village this morning from Rajouri and resumed their activities like collecting samples, and interacting with surviving members of three families and the villagers, the officials said. Home Minister Amit Shah has ordered the constitution of the

"The civil administration and health department are actively addressing the matter, while the police have constituted a Special Investigation Team (SIT) to investigate the incident. Additionally, a central team has been deputed and is working diligently to uncover the reasons behind this unfortunate loss of life," he stated. During the visit, MLA Budhal Javed Iqbal Choudhary submitted a proposal for compensation to the affected families. The Chief Minister confirmed that the proposal is under active consideration and pledged timely action. Omar Abdullah also directed Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Abhishek Sharma, to extend all necessary support to the families during this difficult time. He reassured the public that the findings of the

Illegal drugs being transported through courier service seized in Srinagar

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: A large consignment of illegal drugs allegedly being transported through a courier service in Jammu and Kashmir was seized in Srinagar city, police said on Tuesday. In an operation against illegal drug trafficking, Srinagar Police in Karan Nagar has successfully seized a large consignment of illegal drugs being transported through a courier service, a police official said. He said the operation took place at the premises of a courier service located in the Chota Bazar locality. Acting on a reliable information, a search was conducted at the courier office after following due legal procedures, resulting in the recovery of a substantial quantity of illegal drugs, the official said. The seized drugs include 220 bottles of a banned drug, and 15 boxes of another banned drug, the official said. Following the recovery, a case has been registered under relevant sections of the law. Investigations are underway to trace both the forward and backward supply chain of the seized consignment, he added. A manhunt has been launched to apprehend the accused involved in this network, police said.

Gangster shot dead in broad daylight by rival gang in Jammu

SIT constituted to nab the assailants

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: A 37-year-old man affiliated with a criminal gang was shot dead by three members of a rival group in Jammu's Jewel Chowk area near St Peters School on Tuesday afternoon, officials said. They said the three youths intercepted an SUV (JK 21G-0770) and fired four rounds at Sumit Jandial, 37, son of Om Parkash, resident of Ward No 9, Vijaypur at Jewel Chowk. The critically injured Jandial was taken to Government Medical College Hospital by PSI Anoop Kotwal of Police Station



Sumit Jandial (inset) and his vehicle (JK21-G-0770) in which he was shot dead. (More pics on Pg-9)

Nowabad for treatment, where doctors declared him dead on arrival, police said, adding the assailants commandeered a two-wheeler at gunpoint and fled. Jandial alias Gataru is reported to be the kingpin of

the Gataru gang and was detained under the Public Safety Act (PSA) last year. He survived an assassination attempt in 2017. Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) Anand Jain said, "It is a gang war. He (Jandial) belonged to the Gataru gang of Vijaypur. Members of a rival gang fired on him. It is not a terrorist incident, but a case of gang rivalry." He said a Special Investigation Team (SIT) has been formed to nab the assailants. Those involved in the shooting have been identified

CS Atal Dulloo arrives at Prayagraj; calls it a 'lifetime experience'

STATE TIMES NEWS
PRAYAGRAJ, UP: Jammu and Kashmir Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo expressed his gratitude and excitement upon his arrival in the holy city of Prayagraj. Speaking to the media, he stated, "I am fortunate to get the opportunity to come here. I have just arrived here, will take a holy dip and offer prayers. This will be a lifetime experience." Atul Dulloo's visit to Prayagraj holds special sig-

nificance as the city is revered for its spiritual and cultural heritage. Known as the confluence of the sacred rivers Ganga, Yamuna, and the mythical Saraswati, Prayagraj attracts millions of devotees and tourists

Presidents elected for 15 BJP organisational districts in Jammu

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir BJP on Tuesday announced the election of presidents for its 15 organisational districts in the Jammu region. The announcement was made by Rakesh Mahajan, the returning officer for the BJP's organisational elections. A party spokesperson said, "New presidents were elected for 15 organisational districts in the Jammu region." Mahajan, while announcing the names of the new district presidents, emphasised the BJP's commitment to democratic principles. He said these elections were conducted as part of the ongoing Sangathan Parv at the national level. Jammu has been divided into five organisational districts. Rinku Chowdhary was elected president for Jammu Border, Naresh Singh Jasrotia for Jammu South, Rajesh Gupta for Jammu, Nand Kishore Sharma for Jammu North and

14 Maoists killed along Odisha-Chhattisgarh border

'Mighty blow to Naxalism', says Amit Shah



STATE TIMES NEWS
RAIPUR/BHUBANESWAR: Fourteen Naxals, including a top leader of the CPI (Maoists) who was carrying a reward of Rs 1 crore, were killed in a joint operation by central and state police forces along the Chhattisgarh-Odisha border. Union Home Minister Amit Shah Tuesday termed the

encounter as "another mighty blow to Naxalism" and asserted the Narendra Modi government's resolve for a Naxal-free India and the joint efforts of the security forces to eliminate the menace from the country. Chhattisgarh's Gariaband district superintendent of police Nikhil Rakhecha said of the deceased, one has been identified as Jairam alias Chalpati, a central committee member of the CPI (Maoist), who was carrying a bounty of Rs 1 crore. The identity of the remaining cadres was yet to

Woman, infant son die in cylinder blast

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: A woman and her six-month-old son died when a cylinder allegedly exploded inside their home in Poonch district on Tuesday, officials said. Shazia Kousar, the wife of Sajjad Hussain, was preparing food when the incident took place at Jandrola village of the Mandi area in the evening, they said. Neighbours doused the flames and admitted a critically-injured Kousar and her infant son Ayan Ahmad to a hospital where they were declared brought dead, the officials said. Police have started inquest proceedings, they added.

India-Pak rift on IWT: Neutral expert backs New Delhi's stand

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: A World Bank-appointed neutral expert has backed New Delhi's position on the framework to resolve certain disputes between India and Pakistan on Kishenganga and Ratle hydroelectric projects. While India has been pressing for resolution of the issues by the neutral expert as mandated under the Indus Water Treaty (IWT) between the two countries, Pakistan has been backing the Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague to resolve them.

Expert under Paragraph 7 of Annexure F to the Indus Waters Treaty, 1960," the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said. "The decision upholds and vindicates India's stand that all seven questions that were referred to the neutral expert, in relation to the Kishenganga and Ratle hydroelectric projects, are differences falling within his competence under the treaty," it said on Tuesday. In 2015, Pakistan sought the appointment of the neutral expert to deal with its objections to the two

WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 23.3°C Min: 9.0°C

Humidity
Max: 92 Min: 54

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 11.1°C Min: 1.0°C

Humidity
Max: 94 Min: 75

Sunset : 17:52 Hours
Sunrise : 07:30 Hours

In a lighter vein! : Revdi Aur GajakFuture Bright!

PROF NUTAN K RESUTRA

ANCHOR

I am happy, I very happy; rather I am about to do Lohri Dance! People are asking me why, and I say elections are going to take place in Delhi. They look at me, some wondering, many with what-a-stupid-he is, look. They just stop short of asking: elections are being held in Delhi: why the hell are you dancing in Jammu. Begani shadi mein Abdullah deewana. I give them even a bigger foolish glance and reply smilingly: future bright! Now it's their turn to be surprised and there is an obvious question mark on them. Patiently, just like a Mahrishi of the ancient times, I patiently start explaining to them the well-kept secret in an abhaya mudra: The Election Commission sounded dugdugi in Delh and Janata started gathering in the ground. Television channels hoarded all those who shout full throat, none bothering whether there is any sense in discussion. But what the Janata was awaiting was the announcement of freebies or Revdi. The last three elections in Delhi were comfortably won by the Kejriwal Party. The National Party shouted hoarse "Revdis are useless. Freebies cannot be given to voters." But people did vote for them, not once but thrice. This rendered others groping in the dark what to do now. AAP Kejri were certain that this time also they would announce freebies and once again wrench the power; irrespective of the issues of sharaab ghotala or sheesh mahal. And they did dole out their favourite slogan: 300 units free electricity, Rs.2100 to women; and then they winkingly looked at their rivals imagining the latter who spoke so vociferously against Revdis cannot counter this move. But then they were in for surprise. The other national parties also decided to play on the same turf of Kejri. They adopted the dictum "If you can't oppose them, follow them." And lo! Out came from the magic hat the promise of free 300 units of electricity plus Rs. 2300; and one up on that, Rs.2500. It is indeed Gajak compared to Revdis.Bravo. Now the three Madarries are out with their own bundle of promises, trying to woo Delhi. And Kejri is crying foul: insisting that the others are copy cats using his idea of Revdis. In this tamasha, Janata is enjoying the natural Cat-Fight; please refrain using the term Dog-fight! I again say I am happy because I see my future bright in their Revdi-Gajak slogans. The secret of my future-bright lies in a story about meeting of two donkeys, one of Kumhaar and the other of Dhobi. The latter asked:Kaisa chal raha hai. Kumhar's donkey said: Bahut bura Bhai. khany ko bahut kum milta hai, aur maar bhi patti hai. Tum sunao apni.Dhobi's donkey said: the situation here is also same; but mera future bright hai! Astonished, the other asked: How come so. Came the innocent reply: Dhobi has a daughter who washes clothes for him. The father daily says: If clothes remain dirty, I will marry you to this Donkey. Aakhir kabhi to.....!! The National Party promising Gajak of free electricity and cash to women is ruling 20 States and UT's. And this is a Party that stands by its words.Also, when the Party President or the Prime Minister speak, they speak for the country and not one little Delhi only. So,I am also happy; I am dancing because I am sure we will also get not only Revdis but also Gajak. And my future is also bright! And now I am going away happily feeling I have got free electricity and cash payment just now!

Northern Army Commander reviews operational preparedness in Reasi



Northern Army Commander Lt Gen M V Suchindra Kumar during visit to Reasi on Tuesday.

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: General Officer Commanding-in-Chief of Northern Command Lt Gen M V Suchindra Kumar on Tuesday visited Reasi and Chandrakot sectors in Reasi district and reviewed the operational preparedness of the troops, the army said. Accompanied by General Officer Commanding of Jammu-based White Knight Corps Lt Gen Navin Sachdeva, the northern commander also reviewed the ongoing operations during the visit, it said. Sharing the information on its X handle, the Northern Command said Lt Gen Kumar commended the troops for their unwavering commitment and exhorted all ranks to maintain