

03 India's first underwater deep sea human mission this year: Dr Jitendra

03 Quick settlement of insurance claims brings relief to families of J&K Bank customers

10 Exceptional fast bowling display by Umar, Yudhvir, Auqib as J&K bundles out Mumbai for 120 runs

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Our government gives top priority to sports development in J&K, Ladakh: Modi

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

LEH: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said his government's top priority is to develop sports across the country, especially in Jammu and Kashmir and the union territory of Ladakh.

In a message during the opening ceremony of the Khelo India Winter Games 2025 here, Modi reiterated the government's commitment to spread sporting activities across India and said how Ladakh and J&K have not only "elevated the culture of sports in our country, but also boosted tourism, showcasing the nation's beauty and diversity." "Our government attaches top priority to sports development in Ladakh and Jammu and Kashmir. Through 100 Khelo India Centres in Jammu & Kashmir and three in Ladakh, including a State Centre of Excellence in Leh for athletics, archery, and boxing, our efforts are shaping the region into a hub of sporting excellence," said PM



Modi. "KIWG 2025 will play a crucial role in taking our sporting excellence to the next level." On an icy morning, the KIWG 2025 got off to a rousing start at the iconic NDS Stadium here on Thursday.

The first part of the KIWG 2025 is being hosted by the Union Territory of Ladakh till January 27.

The Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir will host the games from February 22-25.

Meanwhile the flight from Delhi, which was carrying Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya, who was to grace the KIWG 2025 opening in person, could not land at Leh's Kushok Bakula Rimpochee Airport due to bad weather.

Several dignitaries, including the Lt Governor of UT-Ladakh, Brigadier Dr BD Mishra, was present in the opening ceremony.

A cultural display and an exhibition ice-hockey match

made for a crisp ceremony.

Mandaviya expressed his disappointment at missing the opening ceremony but encouraged all the stakeholders by stating that India was truly a "4D sports destination." "If I talk of one and a great united India, then I also look at the diversity hidden in it and the benefits that come from it.

"Currently we are in Leh, we can hold the Winter Games here due to the prevalent weather conditions. If we go towards the Northeast, it's a great region for the development of adventure sports," he said.

"Going forward, we will explore the immense possibilities of beach games in south India, we will see all our other popular games being organised on the west coast. This tells us that we are a 4D Nation in terms of sports," Mandaviya added.

The KIWG 2025 started on Thursday with ice hockey matches at the NDS complex and the Ladakh

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Unexplained deaths: Close contacts shifted from Badhaal to Nursing College for preventative care

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: To provide them instant and better preventive care, the close contacts of affected families of village Badhaal have been shifted to Nursing College in Rajouri on the direction of Deputy Commissioner Abhishek Sharma.

The decision was taken to ensure better preventative care and close monitoring of their health, as tests revealed the presence of certain toxins, not bacterial or viral infection.

"Close contacts and High risk individuals have been shifted to the Nursing

College to expedite care, as the distance from Badhaal to Rajouri causes delays in responding to medical needs" the DC said.

To review the arrangements at the Nursing College, the DC chaired a meeting and inspected the accommodation facilities. He also interacted with the relocated individuals, inquiring about their well-being. Addressing their concerns, the DC assured that their domestic animals will be taken care of at Badhaal by the Animal Husbandry and Agriculture Departments.

Key measures taken by the

district administration included the Installation of CCTV cameras to monitor meal preparation and distribution, with all activities videographed for transparency and deployment of female officers for the welfare of women.

In addition, directions were issued to the Chief Education Officer to facilitate regular classes for the children.

An awareness camp was also held by the Labour Department to educate the affected individuals and issue e-Shram cards. The

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Fake Facebook account of ADGP created, probe ordered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A fake Facebook account impersonating Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) Anand Jain has been created, prompting the Jammu and Kashmir Police to launch a thorough investigation and take strict legal action against those involved.

"It has come to our attention that a fake Facebook account has been created using the name of Anand Jain, along with a profile picture of the ADGP," a police spokesperson said.

The fraudulent account features a misleading

Terror hideout busted in Pulwama

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Security forces busted a militant hideout in Pulwama district and recovered a cache of arms and ammunition, police said on Thursday.

During a search operation at Larmoo Awantipora area of the south Kashmir district, security forces busted a hideout, a police official said.

He said during search, the security forces recovered arms and ammunition including a grenade, a UBGL, an Electric Detonator, ten API 7.62 rounds, a pistol magazine, a pistol round, an IED triggering device, and a broken magazine among other things.

Trump's behaviour towards India good as of now: Omar

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Asserting that US President Donald Trump's behaviour towards India has been good till now, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Thursday said that when he was in office earlier, his relations with Prime Minister Narendra Modi were good.

On the issue of mysterious deaths in Rajouri, he said that investigations are going on.

"It has been two days since he assumed office. At least his behaviour at present has

been good. When he was in office earlier, his relations with Prime Minister Modi



were good", he told reporters here.

Abdullah further said that as far as the duty hike is concerned, our country has not been included in it so far.

"Let's see what happens going forward-it's only been two days," he added.

He was replying to questions about Trump's relations with India and investigation into Rajouri deaths case.

"As of now, our investigation is ongoing. Like I said that day in Rajouri, we have at least been able to understand that this is neither a virus nor a bacteria," he said.

He further said, "What it actually is, will be determined with the help of

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Farooq sings 'Tune Mujhe Bulaya Sherawaliye' Bhajan at Katra

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir National Conference chief Farooq Abdullah surprised devotees on Thursday by singing a 'bhajan' dedicated to Mata Shera Wali. A video of his performance has gone viral on social media.

Abdullah also addressed the ongoing issue of the ropeway construction in Katra and said that those responsible for the operation

of the Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine should avoid actions

aaya Sherawaliye," Abdullah sang, joining a singer and children at a 'bhajan' programme at an ashram in Katra. The video of the performance quickly went viral online.

Speaking on the occasion, Abdullah voiced support for the people of Katra in their protest against the ropeway project. He said, "Those running the



that cause problems for the people.

"Tune mujhe bulaya Sherawaliye, main aaya main

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Kashmir records dip in temperatures

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The minimum temperature dropped in Kashmir on Thursday, with the Meteorological Department forecasting mainly dry weather until the end of the month -- the remaining part of the 40-day harshest winter period known as Chillai-Kalan, officials said.

Barring Gulmarg, the night temperature decreased across all weather stations in the Kashmir valley.

The minimum temperature in Srinagar settled at minus 2 degrees Celsius on Wednesday night, down from the previous night's 0.6 degrees Celsius, according to the meteorological department.

Pahalgam, one of the base camps for the annual Amarnath Yatra in south Kashmir, recorded a low of minus 5.6 degrees Celsius, down from minus 4.2 degrees Celsius the night before.

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 22.2°C Min: 6.8°C

Humidity
Max: 81 Min: 49

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 13.3°C Min: -2.0°C

Humidity
Max: 92 Min: 41

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

DGP conducts operational review of forward operating bases on tri junction of Kathua, Doda and Udhampur

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Director General of Police (DGP), Nalin Prabhat, visited strategically important areas of Basantgarh, to take a comprehensive operational review.

Accompanying the DGP were Anand Jain, ADGP Jammu Zone; Rayees Mohammad Bhat, DIG UR Range; Amod Nagpure, SSP Udhampur and officers from CRPF and Army.

The DGP interacted with all personnel deployed in Forward Operating Bases (FOB), lauding their relentless commitment to main-



DGP Nalin Prabhat at Basantgarh on Thursday.

taining peace and security. Acknowledging the tough working conditions, he commended their dedication and resilience.

He urged the personnel to

relentlessly tackle the obtaining threats, while ensuring that the safety and well-being of the local populace remains a top priority.

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Almost all ideological tasks completed in 10 yrs: Amit Shah

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

AHMEDABAD: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday said "almost all" pending ideological tasks including the abrogation of Article 370 have been completed by the Narendra Modi government, and it will continue on the same path in its third tenure.

The senior BJP leader was speaking after inaugurating the Hindu Spiritual & Service Fair, also known as 'Hindu Adhyatmik Seva Mela', at the Gujarat University grounds here.

There was a time when

Hindus hesitated to disclose their identity in their own country, he claimed.

"In ten years, the situation

implementation of Uniform Civil Code (UCC)," he said. Notably, while the UCC has not been implemented at the national level, B J P - r u l e d Uttarakhand has introduced it and Shah had told the Rajya Sabha last month that it would be implemented in all the states.

While the Modi government completed these unfinished works in ten years, earlier governments had not touched them for 70 years, Shah further said in his speech here.

The Modi government will continue in the same



has changed. Now, almost all the pending works as per our ideology have been completed, be it the abrogation of Article 370 from Jammu and Kashmir, construction of Ram Temple in Ayodhya, abolition of triple talaq and

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

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