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STATE TIMES

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Vol. 30 Issue 4 • Jammu • Saturday • January 4, 2025 • Pages 12 • ₹ 5.00
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Centre's development projects will boost self-esteem of poor: PM

Lays foundation stone for 2 DU Campuses, Veer Savarkar College



STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said the Centre's development projects will boost the self-esteem of poor people and instil confidence in them, which is the real energy of Viksit Bharat.

At an event here, Modi handed over the keys to eligible beneficiaries of EWS (economically weaker section) flats at Swabhiman

Apartments in the Ashok Vihar area, describing them as symbols of self-respect, dignity, and new aspirations and dreams.

The prime minister inaugurated several key development projects in Delhi, including 1,675 flats for residents of JJ (jhuggi-jhopri) clusters and the World Trade Centre, ahead of the assembly elections due in February.

Addressing a gathering, the

Modi likens AAP to 'aapda' for Delhi

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday slammed AAP as an "aapda" for Delhi, saying this "aapda" had taken the national capital in its grip in the past 10 years.

Addressing people after launching a slew of infrastructure projects in the national capital, including in housing and education sectors, he hit out at the AAP-led city government and said the situation in the national capital would worsen if its reign continued.

On the one hand, the Centre is making a lot of efforts; on the other, the Union Territory government stands for brazen lies, Modi said, accusing the AAP government of committing corruption in a host of sectors ranging from school education to fighting pollution and the liquor trade.

With assembly elections set to be held in the city next month, the prime minister said Delhi had launched a war on this "aapda (disaster)" and decided to get rid of it.

Giving a call for AAP's defeat, Modi raised the slogan, "Aapda ko nahi sahenge, badal kar rahenge (we will not tolerate 'aapda', we will remove it)."

"This year will usher in a new politics of nation-building and people's welfare. Therefore, 'aapda' ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

prime minister said in the last 10 years, his government has fulfilled the dreams of owning a pucea house of over four crore people.

The development push from the BJP-led government at the Centre comes ahead of the assembly ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Prakash Parv of Guru Gobind Singh: Impressive 'Nagar-Kirtan' taken out

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: An impressive 'Nagar-Kirtan' was taken out by the Sikh community in connection with the Prakash Parv of Guru Gobind Singh Ji Maharaj, at Jammu.

Organised by the District Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (DGPC) Jammu on the eve of Prakash Parv (Gurpurab) of 10th Guru of Sikhs, Guru Gobind Singh Maharaj, a large number of Sikh community members, including children from various schools and Ragi Jathas from J&K and outside, participated in the grand religious procession (Shobha Yatra) in the City of Temples today.

Since morning, a large number of Sikh community members, including women and children besides students from various schools in their respective uniforms, started assembling at Gurdwara Yadgar Shri Guru Nanak Dev Ji at Lower Gumat, near the 'Samadhi' of Bibi Chand Kour (Chand Nagar), Jammu.

DGPC Jammu members besides organizers from various Sikh bodies jointly organized this grand religious affair.

A vehicle was exquisitely decorated and converted into a chariot, where the



Panj Piyare leading the Nagar Kirtan in Jammu on Friday. (More pics on Pg-5)

Holy Guru Granth Sahib was placed. The vehicle/chariot was decorated with flowers and bunting and fitted with loud speakers. Besides head priest, several other Sikh religious personalities were on board this specially designed chariot.

As per Sikh religious traditions, five warriors of the great Guru (Panj Piyaras), holding swords in hand and attired in traditional dress code, were leading the chariot, followed by Sikh Sangat and other devotees.

The school children in two lines with

band parties ahead were also part of this long religious procession which started from Lower Gumat/ Chand Nagar at around 10.00 am.

Tadi Jatha of Giani Kewal Singh Komal, Bhai Harvinder Singh Parcharak Ganga Nagar Waley, Panthak Kavi Prof. Gurecharan Singh Chaan, Bibi Davinder Kour Dashmesh Kavishri Jatha Mishriwala, Panthak Kavi Bhai Sulakhan Singh Arshi Jammu Waley and local Parcharaks Bhai Rasvinder Singh Simble waley, Bhai Satvir Singh, ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Follow-Up: Aggarwal Brothers, their accomplices still absconding

Police expand search net; list of over 10 accused prepared

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Days after the brutal assault on hotel staff at Trikuta Nagar involving Mohit Aggarwal and Shashank Aggarwal, sons of businessman Rakesh Aggarwal, the situation remains tense as all the accused, including the accomplices who joined the brothers in the attack, are still absconding.

Businessman Rakesh Aggarwal, whose name had once figured during the probe of Anara Sex Scandal, is also supporting his sons to evade arrest.

Reliable sources close to the



Mohit Aggarwal Shashank Aggarwal Arun Choudhary

family have revealed that Rakesh Aggarwal is attempting to use similar criminal tactics to protect his sons as he once did to save himself from the Anara Sex Scandal. However, this time, senior police officers are refusing to offer any support, given the

gravity of the situation and the aggressive criminal behavior displayed by his sons, who orchestrated the attack on the hotel staff by calling goons from outside.

As the city continues to express outrage over the incident, prominent residents

and local political leaders are demanding swift and stringent action against the Aggarwal brothers and their accomplices, urging the authorities to ensure that such criminal behaviour does not go unchecked.

The police investigation has reportedly uncovered a list of over 10 individuals who allegedly accompanied the Aggarwal brothers in their violent rampage against the hotel staff. Despite intensified efforts, multiple raids, and substantial evidence such as CCTV footage, none of the accused have been apprehended so far.

According to sources within the investigation team, the Aggarwal brothers, along with their accomplices, are suspected to have gone into hiding to evade arrest. The police are actively conducting searches in various locations, and lookout notices are being prepared to prevent their escape from the city or state.

"We have identified over 10 accomplices who were part of the mob that assaulted the hotel staff," a senior police officer revealed. "Efforts are underway to locate and apprehend each one of them. No one involved in ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Normalcy not fully restored in J&K yet: CM

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Normalcy has not been fully restored in Jammu and Kashmir yet as terror attacks continue to take place but the process for establishing peace is underway, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah said on Friday.

Abdullah's remarks came a day after Union Home Minister Amit Shah said Article 370 had sowed the seeds of separatism in the minds of Kashmir's youth and that the Narendra Modi government not only ended terrorism in the valley but also the terror ecosystem.

"I do not want to say anything on that (Shah's statement). (But), today also, reports come from some

places when attacks take place. Normalcy has not been fully restored in Jammu and



Kashmir even today. It is a process and we will have to see what happens in the coming days," Abdullah told reporters.

The chief minister also trashed rumours that

Jammu and Kashmir's name was being changed to "Kashyap".

"There is nothing like that. Some media house ran it but then corrected it. No such proposal is there and it anyways cannot happen without the consent of the Jammu and Kashmir government," he added.

Asked about the government's preparations in view of the forecast of snowfall, Abdullah said the administration was ready to deal with it.

"We will deal with it. We are prepared, we have had several meetings and we also have experience after the last snowfall. If there were any lacunae last time, we will correct that this time," he said.

To a question about ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

BJP youth leader shot at over parking issue; accused arrested

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: District President of BJP Yuva Morcha, Advocate Kanav Sharma, son of prominent lawyer and senior BJP leader Advocate Chandar Mohan Sharma, was critically injured after being shot during a parking dispute near his residence in New Plot, Jammu. The incident, which occurred on Friday afternoon, has left the local residents in shock.



District President BJP Yuva Morcha, Advocate Kanav Sharma under treatment at Jammu GMC Hospital.

A senior police officer said, "the main accused Ravinder Singh fired two rounds at Advocate Kanav Sharma, injuring him seriously. The Bakshii Nagar Police has arrested the accused and recovered the weapon. FIR 01/2025 has been registered and investigation started."

The scuffle reportedly began when Kanav requested employees of a nearby power station to remove their scooter, which was obstructing the

parking space, outside his house. Witnesses stated that the employees, instead of complying, started arguing, which quickly escalated into a heated altercation.

In a shocking turn of

events, one of the power station employees, identified as a meter reader, Ravinder Singh pulled out a pistol and shot at Kanav twice. According to locals, the accused appeared to be intoxicated at the time of the incident. Ravinder Singh managed to flee from the spot. However after the chase of over six hours, he was arrested by Bakshii Nagar police.

A woman neighbour acted swiftly to shift the injured Kanav to Sarwal Hospital. Later, he was shifted to the Government Medical College (GMC) Hospital, Jammu, for advanced treatment. Doctors who operated

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NIA seizes land belonging to terrorist's aide

STATE TIMES NEWS
ANANTNAG: The National Investigation Agency (NIA) Friday attached a property of a key accused in a case relating to an encounter in which a Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) terrorist and four security forces personnel were killed.

The encounter took place on September 13, 2023, between security forces and terrorists in Guri Nad, Gadole forest area of Kokernag.

Colonel Manpreet Singh, commanding officer of the 19 Rashtriya Rifles unit of the Army, Major Ashish Dhonchak, Deputy

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Corps commander visits LoC in Rajouri-Poonch, reviews operations

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The General Officer Commanding (GOC) of Jammu-based White Knight Corps, Lieutenant General Navin Sachdeva, visited forward areas along the Line of Control (LoC) in the twin border districts of Rajouri and Poonch on Friday to review security and operational preparedness, officials said.

He also engaged with trainee IAS officers, discussing topics related to national security, governance and civil-military synergy, emphasising their importance for building a stronger India, they said.

"The GOC, White Knight Corps, along with the GOC of the Ace of

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

NIA chargesheets narco smuggler with terror links in 2020 drug seizure case

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: The NIA on Friday chargesheeted an accused in a 2020 case relating to seizure of 17 kgs of heroin and cash in Jammu and Kashmir.

Syed Saleem Jahangir Andrabi alias Saleem Andrabi has been named in a third supplementary chargesheet filed by the NIA before the agency's special court in Jammu.

Andrabi, a resident of Kupwara district, evaded arrest for four years before he was nabbed in July 2024.

A total of 16 people have so far been chargesheeted in the case, in which investigation still continues. Handwara police had

PM Surya Ghar Yojana: CS fixes target of 30,000 installations by March

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, on Friday chaired a meeting to take first hand appraisal of the progress made in installation of solar rooftops under PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana in Jammu and Kashmir.

Present in the meeting were Principal Secretary, PDD, Principal Secretary, Finance, Commissioner Secretary, Science & Technology, MD JPDCL/KPDCL, CEO, JAKEDA, Chief Engineers and other concerned officers in person and through virtual mode.

Dulloo emphasised upon the concerned departments to carry out rigorous IEC campaigns to generate



Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo chairing a meeting in Jammu.

awareness among the public about this scheme. He called for creating awareness material in local languages for easy comprehension besides sending bulk SMSs to the targeted consumers.

He directed for reaching out to each panchayat with full fledged programs distributing IEC materials in local languages besides demonstrating educational videos and success stories there. He

enjoined upon the Discoms to designate nodal officers among their engineers to accomplish these tasks with relevant feedback to their higher-ups.

The Chief Secretary observed that such schemes are reform-oriented with direct benefits accruing to public. He asked for making concerted efforts to increase the number of applicants

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