

**BLUE MOON**  
Banquets • Conventions

THE BANQUET WITH A DIFFERENCE

National Highway, Near Thandi Khul, Jammu  
Contact: 9086035550, 9086035551

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

**SOWING SKILLS**  
SHAPING INDIA

03

Sindhu Festival a symbol of India's civilizational roots and national unity, says LG Kavinder

03

Seniors at cardiac risk need focused attention: Dr Sushil

05

Union Power Minister begins two-day tour of J&K, reviews progress of hydroelectric projects

India voices deep concern over US military action on Venezuela

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI:

India on Sunday voiced "deep concern" over the US' capture of Venezuela's President Nicolas Maduro and his wife in a military operation and called for a peaceful resolution of the issues to ensure stability in the region.

In its first reaction to the unprecedented American action in Venezuelan capital Caracas early on Saturday, New Delhi also reaffirmed its support for the well-being of the people of the oil-rich South American country and said it is closely monitoring the unfolding developments.

The United States brought Maduro and his wife, Lady Cilia Flores, to New York to face drug trafficking-related charges. Venezuela, denouncing the US action, has announced a state of national emergency.

"Recent developments in Venezuela are a matter of deep concern. We are closely



monitoring the evolving situation," the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said.

"India reaffirms its support to the well-being and safety of the people of Venezuela," it added.

New Delhi also called upon "all concerned to address

Most of the Latin American countries as well as several leading powers, including Russia, Brazil and China, criticised the US for the military operation in Caracas.

In its brief statement, the MEA said the Indian embassy in Caracas has been in touch with members of the Indian community and will continue to provide all possible assistance to them.

On Saturday night, India advised its nationals to avoid all non-essential travel to Venezuela and urged all those who are in that country to exercise extreme caution.

"In view of recent developments in Venezuela, Indian nationals are strongly advised to avoid all non-essential travel to Venezuela," the MEA said.

"All Indians who are in Venezuela for any reason are advised to exercise extreme caution, restrict their movements, and remain in

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Omar, ministers greet people on Guru Gobind Singh Ji's Jayanti

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah and ministers on Sunday extended warm greetings to the Sikh community and all those celebrating the birth anniversary of Guru Gobind Singh Ji.

In his message, the Chief Minister paid rich tributes to the life and teachings of Guru Gobind Singh Ji, describing him as a beacon of truth, courage, integrity and unwavering devotion to humanity.

He said that the Guru's timeless ideals of sacrifice, righteousness and service continue to inspire millions across the world and will remain a guiding light for generations to come.

On the auspicious occasion, the Chief Minister prayed for peace, prosperity and harmony in Jammu and Kashmir, and expressed hope that the spirit of the day would further strengthen the bonds of unity, brotherhood and communal

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

AGMUT cadre reshuffle: Santosh, Rashid among 5 shifted out; 6 posted to J&K

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Ministry of Home Affairs on Sunday shifted several IAS officers from the Jammu and Kashmir segment of the AGMUT cadre, including Santosh D. Vaidya and Syed Abid Rashid Shah, to other States and Union Territories in the joint cadre.

According to an order, Santosh D. Vaidya (Principal Secretary, Finance) has been transferred to Delhi; Niraj Kumar (Administrative Secretary, Public Grievance Department) has been transferred to Delhi; Syed Abid Rashid Shah (Secretary, Health & Medical Education Department) has been transferred to Chandigarh; Saloni Rai (Deputy Commissioner, Udhampur) has been transferred to Delhi; Baseer Ul Haq Chaudhary (Mission Director, NHM) has been transferred to Ladakh.

The officers shifted from other segments of the AGMUT cadre to Jammu &

Kashmir include Ashwani Kumar (Delhi segment-1992), R. Alice Vaz (Delhi segment -2005), Anjali Schrawat (Delhi segment-2013), Sagar D. Dattatray (DNH&DD-2014), Akriti Sagar (Arunachal Pradesh-2016), and Kumar Abhishek (Delhi segment -2016).

Among others transferred Padma Jaiswal (2003) from Puducherry to Delhi; Shurbir Singh (2004) from Delhi to Ladakh; Yashpal Garg (2008) from Arunachal Pradesh to Delhi; Sanjeev Ahuja (2008) from Goa to Delhi; Satyendra Singh Dursawat (2012) from Andaman & Nicobar to Delhi; Aman Gupta (2013) from Andaman & Nicobar to Delhi; Rahul Singh (2013) from Lakshadweep to Delhi; Hemant Kumar (2013) from Delhi to Andaman & Nicobar; Ravi Dadhich (2014) from Delhi to Mizoram; Kinny Singh (2014) from Delhi to Puducherry; Arjun Sharma

(2015) from Andaman & Nicobar to Delhi; Vandana Rao (2015) from Delhi to Andaman & Nicobar; Michael M. DSouza (2015) from Ladakh to Goa; Nikhil U Dessai (2016) from DNH&DD to Goa; Ankita Mishra (2018) from Goa to Arunachal Pradesh; Hari Kallikkat (2018) from Chandigarh to Delhi; Vishakha Yadav (2020) from Arunachal Pradesh to Delhi; Azharuddin Zahiruddin Quazi (2020) from Andaman & Nicobar to Delhi; Cheemala Siva Gopal Reddy (2020) from Mizoram to Delhi.

Among others transferred are Indian Police Service (IPS) officer Ajit Kumar Singla (2004) from Puducherry to Delhi; Mangesh Kashyap (2009) from Delhi to Arunachal Pradesh; Rajiv Ranjan Singh (2010) from Delhi to Chandigarh; Prashant Priya Gautam (2013)

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Rajnath to commission ICG ship Samudra Pratap in Goa today

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

PANAJI: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will commission Indian Coast Guard ship 'Samudra Pratap', the first of two

pollution control vessels, in Goa on Monday. The vessel is equipped with advanced systems to detect oil spills, enabling comprehensive pollution response operations within the Exclusive Economic Zone and beyond.

"It is capable of high precision operations, recover pollutants from viscous oil, analyse contaminants, and

separate oil from contaminated water," the Indian Coast Guard said.

Defence Minister Singh will commission the ship



Samudra Pratap at Goa Shipyard Limited, Vasco, in South Goa on Monday, it said.

Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant, Indian Coast Guard Director General

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Sidharth re-elected as President Volleyball Association of J&K

Kunal Magotra General Secretary; Mohd Tariq Treasurer

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Volleyball Association of Jammu and Kashmir (VAJK) re-elected Sidharth Daluja as President and Kunal Magotra as General Secretary during a meeting of its Executive Body and General Body members held at Hotel Lemon Tree, Jammu. The elections, conducted unanimously, were for the term 2026-2030, reflecting strong consensus and confidence in the leadership of the Association.

Along with Sidharth Daluja and Kunal Magotra, Amir Bhat and Gurbaksh Singh Gill (Col. Retd.) were elected as Vice Presidents, Mohd Tariq as Treasurer, and



VAJK President Sidharth Daluja along with elected members posing for photograph.

(Pic by: Ashok Anand) (More Pics on Page-5)

Kamal Sharma and Mudasir Ahmad Dar as Joint Secretaries. The newly constituted team is expected to continue its efforts to pro-

mote and strengthen volleyball across Jammu and Kashmir.

The general council meeting of the Association was co-

chaired by Raj Daluja, Patron-in-Chief, and Sidharth Daluja President.

Advocate Anshuja Tak, the Returning Officer/Observer,

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Northern Rly's Jammu Div marks first year with series of historic milestones

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Northern Railway's Jammu division, which is completing its first year next week, achieved several historic milestones in infrastructure development, connectivity and operational expansion, officials said on Sunday.

India's 70th railway division, officially established and inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on January 6 last year, connected Kashmir valley to rest of the country and instilled a sense of change and hope among the people of Jammu and Kashmir, the railways said in a statement here.

In 2025, it said the Jammu division achieved several significant milestones and witnessed remarkable expansion in connectivity, including the inauguration of the much-awaited 272-km Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla rail link (USBRL) to connect the valley with rest of the

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

LG flags off group of youth from South Kashmir for exposure tour



LG Manoj Sinha flagging off group of youth for exposure tour.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Sunday flagged off a group of 25 youth from various districts of South Kashmir for a 10-day educational, cultural exchange, and communal

harmony tour. The Lieutenant Governor interacted with the youth and extended his best wishes to them.

During the 10-day long tour, the students and emerging youth leaders will visit various regions including Chandigarh, Haryana, and Shimla.

Strengthening the spirit of "Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat", the tour aims to promote national integration, cultural exchange, experiential learning and

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Making strong efforts to host 2036 Olympics: Modi

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

VARANASI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday asserted that India is preparing with full strength to host the 2036 Olympic Games, and declared his government was committed to providing "more and more players greater opportunities to compete" by hosting mega sporting events in the country.

Addressing the inaugural function of the 72nd Senior National Volleyball Championship, being held here, via video conference, Modi said, the government was making every possible effort to provide exposure to budding athletes to take up Olympic sports, and schemes like Khelo India were proving a game-changer in harnessing talent.

"The 2030 Commonwealth



Games will be held in India, and the country is making strong efforts to host the 2036 Olympics, with the aim of giving more and more players greater opportunities to compete," said Modi.

"Through the Khelo India campaign, hundreds of youth have had the chance to

advance to the national level," added Modi.

Noting that initiatives like the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) were transforming the sports ecosystem in India, with efforts focused on building strong infrastructure, funding mechanisms, and providing young

athletes with global exposure, he said that the country's growing clout in sport could be gauged from the fact that India had hosted 20 top-notch international competition in the last 10 years.

"India has hosted more than 20 major international events across several cities, including the FIFA Under-17 World Cup, Hockey World Cup, and major chess tournaments."

Recalling the time when the government and society were indifferent towards sports, he said the past decade had brought about a massive change in the mindset of the country.

"The government has significantly increased the sports budget, and today India's sports model has become athlete-centric, with

focus on talent identification, scientific training, nutrition, and transparent selection, ensuring that the interests of players are prioritised at every level," he said.

"Today the nation is riding on the 'reform express', with every sector and every development destination connected to it, and sports being one of them," he said.

"India's progress is not limited to the economic front but is also reflected in the confidence seen on the sports field. India's performance across various sports has consistently improved since 2014," he added.

Elaborating on the reforms his government had undertaken in the sports, the PM said the National Sports Governance Act and

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

**WEATHER**

**Temperature (Jammu)**  
Max: 14.2°C Min: 10.2°C

**Humidity**  
Max: 92 Min: 69

**Temperature (Srinagar)**  
Max: 9.6°C Min: -3.2°C

**Humidity**  
Max: 90 Min: 58

Sunset : 17:37 Hours  
Sunrise : 07:33 Hours

Best wishes on  
**GURPURAB**

**RAKESH Jewellers**  
Apsara Road & Lakhdatta Bazar