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(at Dr.Bharat Bhushan Gupta's Clinic), Jan **2** 9419114877

Regd. No. L-29/JK-346/22-24 'Aditya' Sun mission reaching destination UU in Jan 1st week: Dr Jitendra

J&K Tourism receives award of excellence at 15th ATOAI Convention, Gujarat

Website: www.statetimes.in, Email: statetimes1@gmail.com

Air surcharge 50 paisa for Leh Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra continue with resounding success

Number of projects executed in J&K rise from 9,229 in 2018-19 to over 92,560 in 2022-23: LG



LG Manoj Sinha speaking at the G20 Connect Lecture Series on 'Good Governance' at University of Delhi on Monday.

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday said that the number of projects executed in Jammu and Kashmir has risen from 9,229 in 2018-19 to more than 92,560 in

"The people's voice in policies and increased public participation in planning of projects have been instrumental in achieving new developmental milestones in the Territory", the

Lieutenant Governor said in his keynote address during the G20 Connect Lecture Series on 'Good Governance' at the University of Delhi.

He said the BEAMS portal in J&K has enabled monitoring and public overview of works and other interventions, like, PaySys, PROOF, e-GRAS ensured transformational change in governance system.

The Lt Governor emphasised on people's participation, particularly youth in

warrant the day he joins a ter-

"Anyone who becomes a ter-

rorist or joins a terrorist

organisation signs his death

warrant. They (terrorists)

will end because the almighty

is with us, with the people and

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Principal

Finance,

Secretary

Commerce,

Commissioner

by

MD SIDCO, MD SICOP,

MD AGRO. and other key

ror organisation.

The Lt Governor impressed upon the Universities and higher educational institutions to encourage innovation and foster technological empowerment among the vouth.

"Change is the only constant and everyone has to contribute keeping in mind the increasing role of technology in governance. Our youth should be equipped with skills, confidence and optimism to turn every new opportunity into growth," the Lt Governor said.

Artificial Intelligence and new digital tools are being integrated across all sectors and it is modifying the old concepts in both policy making and implementation. Our focus should be on Data & Dialogue and Speed & Scale which will play critical role in empowering people, innovations, sustainable economy and good governance,

3 earthquakes hit Ladakh, another felt in Kishtwar

■ STATE TIMES NEWS JAMMU: A 5.5-magnitude earthquake followed by two aftershocks of lower intensity struck the Union Territory of Ladakh within 15 minutes, while a mild-intensity tremor was felt in Kishtwar on Monday, officials said.

There were no immediate reports of any casualty or damage, they said.

According to the National Centre of Seismology (NCS), the 5.5-magnitude earthquake occurred at $3.48~\mathrm{pm}$ and its epicentre was Kargil. The depth of the tremor was 10 km below the surface at a latitude of 33.41 degrees and longitude of 76.70 degrees, it said.

It was followed by two aftershocks of 4.8 and 3.8 intensity at 4.01 pm, the NCS said.

In Jammu and Kashmir, an earthquake of 3.6-magnitude occurred at $4.18~\mathrm{pm}$ with a depth of 10 km below the surface in Kishtwar district at a latitude of 33.37 degrees and longitude of 76.57 degrees, they said.

Parliament passes Bills to extend women's reservation to J&K, Puducherry Assemblies House reassembled at 2 pm,

NEW DELHI: Parliament on Monday passed two Bills to extend provisions of the women's reservation law to the legislative assemblies of Jammu Kashmir Puducherry with the Rajya Sabha clearing them with a voice vote.

The Government of Union Territories (Amendment) Bill and the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Second Amendment) Bill were passed amid a din as opposition membersthat Union demanding Home Minister Amit Shah make a statement in the House on the December 13 Parliament security breach trooped into the well and raised slogans.

The Bills were passed by the Lok Sabha on December

The Rajya Sabha witnessed two adjournments in the morning session. As the

of the Winter Session for

waving placards and disrupt-

ing proceedings over the

Parliament security breach

issue. Trinamool member

Derek O'Brien was suspend-

ed from the Rajya Sabha for

Minister of State for Home Affairs Nityanand Rai tabled the two Bills for consideration and passage.

He said the Bills are in favour of women's rights. Soon, opposition members were on their feet raising slogans in support of their demand.

Meanwhile, members of the Treasury benches and some other parties spoke in favour of the Bills, asserting that they seek to provide reservation to women in assemblies of Puducherry, and Jammu and Kashmir.

Vijayasai (YSRCP), Kavita Patidar (BJP),M Thambidurai (AIADMK), S Phangnon Konyak (BJP), Ravindra Kanakamedala Kumar (TDP), Rakesh Sinha (Nominated), Jaggesh (BJP) and Birendra Prasad Baishva (Asom Gana Parishad) were among the

Some members urged the central government to hold elections in Jammu and Kashmir at the earliest.

The Government of Union Territories (Amendment) Bill stipulates that nearly one-third of the total number of seats to be filled by direct election to the Legislative Assembly of the union territory of Puducherry (including the number of seats reserved for women belonging to the Scheduled Castes) shall be reserved for women in such manner as the Parliament may by law deter-

The Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Amendment) Bill stipulates that seats shall be reserved for women in the legislative assembly of the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

It states that as nearly as may be, "one-third of the seats reserved under

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Terrorism considered 'dirty word' in J&K: CRPF

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: A senior CRPF officer on Monday said terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir is no longer

fashionable but considered a "dirty word" now. "The basic thing we have to understand is that in today's environment, terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir is no longer fashionable, it is a dirty word.

That's why they (terrorists) will be finished," Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) ADG Nalin Prabhat told reporters at Shopian.

The senior official said a terrorist signs his own death

begins cancellation of

registration of 1,378

78 opposition MPs suspended from Parliament **STATE TIMES NEWS** DELHI: In an

governance to increase trans-

parency and accountability,

and inclusion of marginalised

section in decision-making

for sustainable development.

impact positively on fair dis-

tribution of resources,

responsive, effective, effi-

cient, equitable and inclusive

governance. Better services

are the right of the citizens

and administration must

function as an efficient serv-

ice provider as well," the Lt

participation

various means

"Public

through

unprecedented move, 78 opposition MPs were suspended from Parliament on Monday, in the highest number of suspensions in a day, triggering a strong reaction from the Congress and other parties that accused the BJP government of trying to bulldoze key legislations in an "Opposition-less" Parliament.

As many as 33 members were suspended from Lok Sabha followed by Rajya Sabha where 45 leaders were suspended afterOpposition refused to budge on their demand for a statement from Home Minister Amit Shah over the breach in



in New Delhi on Monday. Parliament security

December 13, when two protesters jumped into the lower house chamber and opened smoke cans.

Monday's action has taken the total number of opposition MPs suspended from both houses to 92 since last Thursday on the issue. AAP member Sanjay Singh has been suspended as a Rajya Sabha member from July 24.

On Thursday, the Lok Sabha suspended 13 members for the remaining part

the remainder of the Winter Session for unruly behaviour. In the Lok Sabha, 33 members, including floor leaders of the Congress and DMK the two large parties in the opposition, were suspended on Monday for unruly behav-

iour. While 30 members were suspended for the remainder of the Winter Session in Lok Sabha, three members were suspended, pending the

STATE TIMES NEWS

members who spoke in sup-

NEW DELHI: Parliament on Monday passed the Post Office Bill that seeks to simplify the legislative framework to facilitate the evolution of India Post into a citizen-centric service network.

The Lok Sabha passed the Bill after a brief discussion amid protests by opposition members demanding a statement from Union Home Minister Amit Shah on the security breach Parliament on December 13.

The Post Office Bill, 2023, which was passed by the Rajya Sabha on December 4, seeks to repeal the 125-yearold Indian Post Office Act and consolidate and amend ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9 the law relating to post

India will become third largest economy in

offices in the country. According to the proposed

Parliament nod to Post Office Bill

legislation, "the central government may, by notification, empower any officer to intercept, open or detain any item in the interest of the security of the State, friendly relations with foreign states,

of any law for the time being in force". Replying to a discussion on the Bill in the Lok Sabha, Minister of State for Communications Devusinh Chauhan stressed that the

public order, emergency or

public safety, or upon the

occurrence of any contraven-

tion of any of the provisions

provision for interception is needed for national

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

assures timely resolutions of issues

vehicles in Jammu ■ STATE TIMES NEWS JAMMU: The

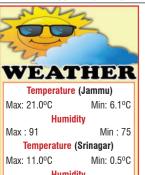
JAMMU: The police on Secretary Atal Dulloo on Monday initiated the process Monday presided over an interaction with delegates of cancellation of registration of 1,378 vehicles and participants from variinvolved in illegal mining ous Trade Bodies and activities in Jammu district, Industry Associations in Jammu and Kashmir, in a officials said The police have taken decisession here.

sive action against illegal The interaction was also mining activities, resulting attended in the seizure of 1,378 multi-Secretary ple vehicles engaged in these Commissioner Industries & unlawful operations, they Divisional An officer said that the Jammu. MD JKTPO, MD Handloom & Handicrafts,

process for the cancellation of vehicles registration associated with these illegal mining activities has been initiated with the concerned department

He added that the seized vehicles were found to be actively involved in illegal mining operations, disregarding environmental regulations and posing a significant threat to the local ecosystem. Jammu Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Vinod Kumar

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Sunset: 17:19 Hours

Sunrise: 07:23 Hours

Min: 71

Max: 86

CS addresses trade bodies, Industry Associations, **STATE TIMES NEWS**



CS Atal Dulloo interacting with delegates and participants from various Trade Bodies and Industry Associations in Jammu.

During the interaction, heads and representatives from different Trade Bodies industry associations

issues before the Chief

Among the topics discussed were the extension of lease

Jammu Division schools from Dec 26 **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir Government announced winter vacation for all Government Schools and recognized Private Schools in Summer Zone areas of Jammu division.

According to a communique, "The Directorate of School Education, Jammu (DSEJ) has announced winter vacation for all school in Summer Zone areas from December 26, 2023 to January 4, 2024."

"All teachers shall remain available on demand for any online guidance of students during vacation period," reads the communique.

STATE TIMES NEWS

VARANASI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday listed the "four castes" he wants to empower while repeating his "guarantee" to make the country the $_{
m third}$ largest economic superpower during his third innings in power.

Modi was addressing a rally in his parliamentary constituency, where he also made a reference to the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, in which he will make his bid for the third

consecutive term in office. The prime minister said for

my third innings, it's Modi's guarantee: PM a developed India, it is important to develop the

country's women power,

Mehar tunnel excavation along

Jammu-Srinagar highway suspended

youth power, farmers and the poor. He has been calling these four groups as the only "castes" that the government

"For decades, the entire region of Purvanchal was lving neglected. With the blessings

should be focusing on.

of Mahadev, Modi is engaged in serving you," he said at the event where he launched development projects worth over Rs 19,000 crore. "Some months

from now, there will be elections in the entire country. And Modi has given a guarantee to the country that in his

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Gulmarg coldest place in Kashmir at minimum temperature of minus 8 deg C



STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Gulmarg in north Kashmir recorded the coldest night of the season at minus eight degrees Celsius while Srinagar city experienced a warmer night due to overcast conditions, officials said on Monday. in Pahalgam south

Kashmir's Anantnag district, which serves as one of the base camps for the annual Amarnath Yatra, recorded a

minimum temperature of minus 5.8 degrees Celsius, a drop of more than four notches, they said. The minimum temperature

in Srinagar city was

People say Kashmir is mini-Switzerland, I say Switzerland is mini-Kashmir: Bhagyashree

SRINAGAR: Kashmir is tranquil and beautiful, says actor

wonders why people go abroad when there is so much beauty in

54-year-old, who shot to fame with her film debut "Maine Pyar Kiya" in 1989, said a lot of tourists want to visit the



Valley but are apprehensive. "Whenever I come here I am reminded of Amir Khusro's couplet that 'If there is Paradise on Earth, it is here, it is here, it is here'. Do not miss visiting Kashmir in your lifetime. It is so tranquil and beautiful here that I do not understand why people go to Switzerland or Europe. When there is so much beauty in our own country, why go elsewhere?" Bhagyashree told PTI at a tourist resort in Anantnag district. "People here say Kashmir is a mini-Switzerland but I say Switzerland ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

after bulges appear on sidewalls STATE TIMES NEWS

RAMBAN: The excavation work for the Mehar tunnel along the 270-km Jammu-Srinagar national highway has been suspended due to

the development of "pressure

and bulges" on its sidewalls,

officials said on Monday. The construction of the 780-metre C-type tunnel started over one-and-a-half years ago to bypass the slide-Mehar-Cafeteria prone stretch in Jammu and

Kashmir's Ramban district. The excavation work on the Cafeteria Morh side of the tunnel was suspended in June this year after its mouth was damaged by a massive landslide. Nearly 400 metres of excavation work has been completed so

An

official of DMR

Construction, which is carrying out the construction work, said for the safety of the workers, the excavation work was suspended after "pressure and bulges" were noticed on the side walls.

"All machinery and manpower were withdrawn from the tunnel project on December 12. The company has informed the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and joint teams of experts and designers are likely to visit the tunnel for a thorough investigation," a senior official of DMR Construction Vinay Kumar

The work on the four-laning of the Jammu-Srinagar national highway started in 2011 and has already missed several deadlines due to the sluggish pace of work.