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Army Chief exhorts field commanders to conduct ops in 'most professional manner' in J&K



Army Chief General Manoj Pande arriving at Poonch on Monday.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Army Chief General Manoj Pande visited Jammu and Kashmir on Monday and exhorted commanders to conduct operations in the "most professional manner", amid an outrage over the killing of three civilians picked up by the force for questioning following a terrorists attack in Poonch last week that left four soldiers dead.

The Chief of Army Staff (CoAS), who visited the ground zero in Poonch-Rajouri sector where a massive anti-terrorism operation is underway, also asked the troops to remain resolute and steadfast against all challenges.

"General Manoj Pande #COAS visited #Poonch sector and was given an update on the prevalent security situation. #COAS interacted with command-

ers on ground, exhorted them to conduct the operations in the most professional manner and remain resolute & steadfast against all challenges," the Additional Directorate General of Public Information (ADGPI) of the Indian Army posted on X.

Earlier, a defence spokesman in Jammu said the Army chief reached Jammu in the afternoon and immediately left for the Rajouri-Poonch sector to review the operational preparedness and the prevailing security situation.

The officials said General Pande visited Dhera Ki Gali and reviewed the anti-terrorist operation going on in Surankote and nearby Rajouri district's Thanamandi forest belt for the last five days to neutralise the terrorists behind the dastardly attack on December 21.

The Army chief later flew to the 25 Infantry division headquarters in Rajouri and was briefed by the commanders on the ground about the overall security situation, they said.

Northern Command General Officer Commanding-in-chief Lt Gen Upendra Dwivedi and Jammu-based White Knight Corps' General Officer Commanding Lt Gen Sandeep Jain accompanied

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Unprecedented progress in development of J&K after Art 370 repeal: Prez

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: President Droupadi Murmu on Monday said there has been an "unprecedented" progress in the development of Jammu and Kashmir after the abrogation of Article 370.

Addressing a youth delegation from Jammu and Kashmir here, she said the Central government and the local administration are working together for the progress of people of the Union territory.

The president said that the youth of J-K want to fulfil their dreams by becoming a



President Droupadi Murmu meeting youth delegation from J&K at Rashtrapati Bhavan.

part of the mainstream of India. "But even today, some elements do not want Kashmir to progress due to vested interests," Murmu said.

However, the way the government is investing in infrastructure, technology and education for the progress of Jammu and Kashmir,

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Two dead, 12 injured as minibus plunges into gorge

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

REASI: Two people were killed and 12 injured on Monday when a minibus carrying a wedding party skidded off the road and plunged into a gorge in Reasi district, police said.

The bus was travelling from Balmatkote to Badar village when the accident took place near Dhamini around 6 am, Chassana SHO Suman Singh said.

A rescue operation was launched immediately and one man -- identified as Mohd Ashraf (25) -- was found dead. Thirteen others, including nine girls aged between three and

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Enforcement Central Jammu recovers Rs 2.01Cr penalty from GST defaulters

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Sales Tax Department's Enforcement Central Jammu has recovered a penalty of Rs 2.01 crore from April 2023 to December 2023 on GST defaulters for not carrying proper documents like G' ST invoices and E-way Bills.

Additional Commissioner State Taxes Adm. & Enforcement Jammu, Namrita Dogra on Monday

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Three criminal justice bills get President's assent

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: President Droupadi Murmu on Monday gave assent to the three new criminal justice bills which were cleared by Parliament last week.

The three new laws -- the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita and the Bharatiya Sakshya Act -- will replace the colonial era Indian Penal Code, the Code of Criminal Procedure

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WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 21.3°C Min: 7.3°C

Humidity
Max: 79 Min: 78

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 9.6°C Min: -2.3°C

Humidity
Max: 96 Min: 83

Sunset : 17:23 Hours
Sunrise : 07:27 Hours

Night temperatures continue to plummet in Kashmir, Pahalgam coldest

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Minimum temperatures continued to decline in most parts of Kashmir for a second consecutive night even as dense fog disrupted daily life in the Valley early on Monday, officials said.

Srinagar -- Jammu and Kashmir's summer capital -- recorded a low of minus 2.3 degrees Celsius, a slight decrease from the previous night's minus 2.1 degrees, they said.

Pahalgam in south Kashmir's Anantnag district, which serves as one of the base camps for the annual



A Shikara walla rows through partially frozen Dal Lake.

Amarnath Yatra, recorded a minimum temperature of minus 4.3 degrees Celsius -- down from the previous night's minus 3.9 degrees

Celsius. According to the officials, Pahalgam was the coldest place in the Kashmir

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Good governance dispelled notion that Govt can't be run without scams: Modi

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday said examples of good governance set under his rule have dispelled the notion that a government cannot be run without scams.

Releasing the first series of 11 volumes of collected works of eminent scholar and freedom fighter Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya at a function here, Modi said the constant endeavour of his government has been to provide basic amenities to the common people at their doorstep so that they don't have to run from pillar to post.

"Among the key aspects of good governance are honesty

and transparency. In this country, it was widely accepted that a government cannot



be run without scams. Pre-2014, there were discussions about scams running into lakhs of crores.

"But, during our rule, several initiatives of good governance have dispelled those notions full of suspicion and doubt," Modi said.

The prime minister said for

any government to become powerful, its institutions play an important role.

Malviya, during his lifetime, set up many such institutions that developed national character.

"Banaras Hindu University is known to all. He also set up several other institutions such as the Rishikul Brahmacharya Ashram at Rishikesh, the

Bhartiya Bhawan Pustakalaya at Prayagraj and the Sanatan Dharma Mahavidyalaya in Lahore. Malviya ji dedicated several institutions to the nation," Modi said. The prime minister said walking in the footsteps of Malviya, his

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LG attends function organised to observe Malaviya, Atalji Jayanti Be committed to create inclusive society to build Viksit Bharat by 2047: Sinha

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

GHAZIPUR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday said that the resolve of every person, every mind must be committed to create a caring and inclusive society to build Viksit Bharat by 2047

Speaking at a function organized on Jamm-Jayanti of Mahamana Pt Madan Mohan Malaviya and former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee as the Chief Guest in Ghazipur, the Lieutenant Governor the Lt Governor said that Mahamana was one of the main architects of modern education and industrial development while Atalji with his policies and public service laid foundation of good governance in the country.

He observed that the humanity must follow his principles to eradicate differences and discrimination, saying this will be true tribute to Mahamana.

He said, Mahamana as an independent thinker, social reformer and educationist always believed in setting higher goals. He was determined to change the fate of India and destiny of youth. He applied his wisdom and values in actions, bringing



LG Manoj Sinha speaking at a function organised at Ghazipur on Monday.

new revolutions in education, technology and industries," the Lt Governor said.

He said the vision of Mahamana in 20th century on Self-reliance, Swadeshi, technical education, Women's education Swarajya was to achieve the goal of independent and Atma-Nirbhar Bharat. Lt Governor noted that Mahamana gave two important Mantra's in his life - first, devotion to God through right conduct and second, service to the nation with total dedication. He said the entire society will have to come together to ensure that the new momentum gained towards women empowerment continues and we must

inspire everyone to follow the ideals and values of Mahamana to build a strong and prosperous India.

Mahamana's lifelong mission was to transform the lives of people and strengthen the bonds of unity in society. His vision and ideals continue to remain as relevant in the 21st century and playing a leading role in building a self-reliant India of Mahamana's dreams. By establishing BHU, Mahamana ensured that young men and women realise their full potential and live a righteous life.

The Lt Governor said, the life of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ji was

dedicated to social equality, equal opportunities to all and empowerment of marginalised in society.

His tenure as a Prime Minister and life in public service symbolizes an era of good governance. He will continue to inspire all of us to serve people with dedication and devotion. I consider Atal ji a true warrior of public life who laid special emphasis on promoting decentralized system of governance, the bottom up approach for active participation of people in decision making," the Lt Governor said. The Lt Governor observed that Atal Ji's determination,

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