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# STATE TIMES

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**03** Dr Jitendra meets students from J&K, calls them 'architects' of 2047

**03** J&K Real Estate Regulatory Authority which was headless in December 2022 is still Headless in Dec 2023

**10** JK College organises lecture on 'Yoga and Mental Health'

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

## LG urges people to report information about terror ecosystem to police, SFs



LG Manoj Sinha speaking during a function organised to mark 'Veer Baal Divas' in Jammu on Tuesday.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Days after a deadly ambush targeted two Army vehicles in Poonch, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said on Tuesday that a small group of terrorists cannot be allowed to terrorise the large population of Jammu and Kashmir.

When people of every village stand up against them, it would be the end of "these few terrorists and terrorism", the LG said and emphasised the need for society to come

## With Art 370 in place, Anand Marriage Act in J&K would not have become reality: Sinha

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday said that Anand Marriage Act has been implemented in Jammu and Kashmir under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"Some people say that what has changed in Jammu and Kashmir. If Article 370 had remained in Jammu and Kashmir, Anand Marriage Act would not have become a reality", the Lieutenant Governor said while participating in a function marking 'Veer Baal Divas'



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"The entire society needs to unite against a few terrorists and anti-national elements," he asserted, advocating a unified voice against the

## Two separate earthquakes hit Ladakh, Kishtwar

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Two earthquakes of mild intensity struck Ladakh and Jammu and Kashmir early Tuesday, officials said. There were no immediate reports of any damage due to the tremors, they said.

The epicentre of the two quakes were in Ladakh's Leh district and Jammu and Kashmir's Kishtwar district, they added.

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## Security situation reviewed in Kishtwar

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Authorities in Jammu and Kashmir's Kishtwar on Tuesday reviewed the prevailing security situation in the hilly district, a police spokesperson said.

Kishtwar Senior Superintendent of Police Khalil Poswal convened the Subsidiary Multi-Agency Centre (SMAC) meeting at the police headquarters. Representatives of the Army,

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## Poonch ambush: Search operations enter Day-6

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
POONCH: Battling difficult terrains and dense forests, security forces continued to carry out cordon and search operations for the sixth consecutive day on Tuesday to track down the terrorists behind the ambush that left four soldiers dead in Poonch last week, officials said.

Over 30 suspects have been questioned during the past few days and several of them have been released, they said.

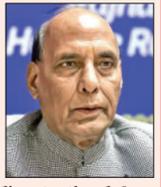


## Defence Minister to visit Rajouri today

NEW DELHI: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has said he will visit Jammu and Rajouri on Wednesday.

"Tomorrow, 27th December, I shall be in Jammu and Rajouri," Singh said in a post on X on Tuesday.

The minister's visit comes following the death of four army personnel, two of them captain, during an encounter between security forces and terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district last week. Three more soldiers were injured in the same encounter. According to the defence sources, more troops are being moved to the sector to strengthen the counter-terror grid.



## CS stresses on providing 4G saturation, broadband services to all uncovered habitations



Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo chairing a meeting in Jammu.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo on Tuesday in a meeting to review the uptake and availability of digital services in the UT remarked that an in-house capacity building should be undertaken

by the IT Department to offer genuine solutions to the users across cross-section of our society.

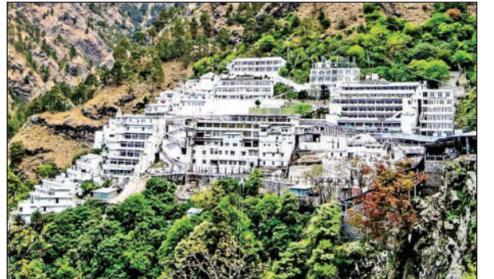
Besides the Commissioner Secretary, IT the meeting was attended by CEO,

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## Pilgrim count at Vaishno Devi shrine highest in a decade

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The cave shrine of Vaishno Devi has been visited by more than 93.50 lakh pilgrims so far this year the highest footfall in a decade.

According to the shrine officials, a total of 93.50 lakh people had visited the temple in Trikuta hills in Jammu's Reasi district by Monday, surpassing the 2013 figure of 93.24 lakh.



"The pilgrimage with a new record of over 93.24 lakh pilgrims is the highest in the last ten years," Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board Chief Executive Officer Anshul Garg said.

The highest number in the history of pilgrimage journey

was in 2012, with 1,04,09,569 devotees, followed by 1,01,15,647 in 2011.

Between 37,000 and 44,000 devotees are embarking on the trek to the shrine every day, Garg said, adding,

he expects this figure to reach 50,000 by the end of the year.

This year, it is projected that the number of devotees visiting for darshan of the deity will surpass 95 lakh, he said.

## Arms recovered from 3 persons in Pulwama, arrested

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: Security forces have arrested three persons and recovered weapons from them in Pulwama district of Jammu and Kashmir, the Army said on Tuesday.

"Based on specific intelligence inputs, a Joint Cordon & Search Operation (CASO) was launched by Indian Army and Jammu and Kashmir Police at Panzu and Gamiraj in Pulwama on 25 December, 2023. Three suspected individuals have been apprehended with recovery of 2 pistols and other war-like stores," Srinagar-based Chinara Corps posted on X.

## Cong high command meets leaders from J&K, Bihar, Ladakh, Punjab to discuss LS poll strategy

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NEW DELHI: The Congress high command held a series of meetings with party leaders from Bihar, Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh and Punjab on Tuesday to discuss the strategy for the upcoming Lok Sabha polls.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, former party chief Rahul Gandhi, General Secretary (Organisation) K C Venugopal and along with other central leaders met the delegations from the states and Union Territories.

Around 40 leaders of the Congress' Bihar unit, includ-

ing its chief Ahilesh Prasad Singh and newly appointed state in-charge Mohan Prakash, attended the meeting with the party's central leadership.

Talking to media after the meeting, the Bihar Congress chief said the RJD-JDU-Congress-Left alliance will fight the Lok Sabha polls together, and a final decision on seat sharing will be taken in the meeting of the alliance committee of Congress which is scheduled for December 29.

"We held detailed discussions on the preparations for the Lok Sabha elections.

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## Kashmir continues to see dip in night temperatures

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: Minimum temperatures continued to dip at night in most parts of Kashmir even as dense fog disrupted early morning life for the second consecutive day in the Valley on Tuesday, officials said here.

Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, recorded a low of minus 3.0 degrees Celsius on Monday night, a slight decrease from the previous night's minus 2.3 degrees Celsius, they said.

Pahalgam in south Kashmir's Anantnag district, which serves as one of the base camps for the annual Amarnath Yatra, recorded a minimum temperature of minus 4.7 degrees Celsius, down from the previous night's minus 4.3 degrees Celsius, they said, adding that it was the coldest recorded place in the Kashmir Valley.

Gulmarg, a famous ski resort in Baramulla, recorded a low of minus 2.4 degrees Celsius, officials said. Qazigund recorded a

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**WEATHER**

Temperature (Jammu)  
Max: 21.4°C Min: 7.4°C

Humidity  
Max: 92 Min: 77

Temperature (Srinagar)  
Max: 9.2°C Min: -3.0°C

Humidity  
Max: 100 Min: 81

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

## J&K Reorganisation (Amendment) Act, J&K Reservation (Amendment) Act come into force

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NEW DELHI: The Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Amendment) Act, 2023, which allows nomination of two members from Kashmiri migrants and one member from displaced persons from PoK, came into force on Tuesday.

Besides, the Jammu and Kashmir Reservation (Amendment) Act, 2023, which seeks to amend the term 'weak and under-privileged classes' to OBC, also came into force.

According to two separate official notifications, the Ministry of Home Affairs has

fixed December 26 as the date from which the two laws have come into effect in Jammu and Kashmir.

"In exercise of the powers conferred sub section (2) of section 1 of the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Amendment) Act 2023 (34 of 2023), the central government hereby appoints the 26th day of December 2023 as the date on which the provisions of the said Act shall come into force," one of the notifications said.

The other notification said: "In exercise of the powers conferred sub section (2) of section 1 of the Jammu and

Kashmir Reservation (Amendment) Act 2023 (35 of 2023), the central government hereby appoints the 26th day of December 2023 as the date on which the provisions of the said Act shall come into force."

The Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Amendment) Act, 2023 provides for nominating two members, including a woman, from the Kashmiri migrant community and one member from the displaced persons from Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) to the legislative assembly of the

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## AC enhances subsidy amount to Rs 70,326 for urban poor under PMAY (U)



LG Manoj Sinha chairing Administrative Council meeting in Jammu on Tuesday.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The Administrative Council (AC) which met here on Tuesday under the chairmanship of the Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha gave its approval to enhancement of UT subsidy from present Rs.16666 to Rs.70326 for eligible Beneficiary Led Construction (BLC) benefi-

ciaries of PMAY (U) in lieu of Interest Free Loan (IFL) scheme.

Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to the Lieutenant Governor; Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor attended the meeting. The beneficiaries under this scheme includes identi-

## Solarisation of 4,000 agri pumps under PM-KUSUM scheme approved

JAMMU: The Administrative Council (AC) which met here under the chairmanship of the Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha gave its approval to solarisation of 4000 Nos. of existing individual grid-connected agriculture pumps under Component-C of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha Evam Uthaan Mahaabhiyan (PM-KUSUM) Scheme having the Grid Connected Solar Power Plant capacity in the range of 1kW to 15kW.

Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to the Lieutenant Governor; Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor attended the meeting.

Under this scheme the farmers will be able to use the generated solar power to meet the irrigation needs and the excess solar power will be sold to Distribution

BLC vertical which will help them in completion of construction of their houses under Mission period i.e Dec 2024. In the UT, beneficiaries face challenges in contributing to the larger house construction component and this decision has been taken to facilitate the beneficiaries in completion of their houses with enhanced assistance.

## Abdullahs, Muftis should stop dancing to tunes of Pakistan: Chugh

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh on Tuesday took strong exception to former J&K Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah's statement criticising the Narendra Modi-led BJP government for not engaging in peace talks with Pakistan and saying that India could meet the same fate as Gaza if a solution is not found through dialogue.

In a statement, Chugh said Abdullah is playing in the hands of Pakistan ISI and is behaving more like a PRO of the ment and progress in Jammu and Kashmir and there is no scope for Abdullahs and

army personnel at the hands of Pakistan sponsored terrorists and condemning the nefarious designs of the ISI, Abdullah is dancing to the tunes of Pakistan, he said.

It is time Abdullahs and Muftis stop doing the bidding of Pakistan ISI and let J&K grow and progress with tourism and computers, he added.

Chugh said Prime Minister Narendra Modi has ushered in a new era of development and progress in Jammu and Kashmir and there is no scope for Abdullahs and



## In coma since 2015 after injury in anti-terror op, Lt Col dies in Jalandhar

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: A Lieutenant Colonel in the Territorial Army, who had been in a coma since November 2015 after sustaining gunshot injuries in an anti-terror operation in Jammu and Kashmir, has died in a Jalandhar hospital, officials said on Tuesday.

The Patahirri Garrison in Kupwara district paid rich tributes to the officer; Lt Colonel K S Natt, earlier in the day. Officers and troops of the Kupwara Terriers unit laid wreaths at its war memorial and observed a two-minute silence to honour his sacrifice.

Natt was posted with the 160 Infantry Battalion of the Territorial Army at the time of the encounter in November 2015. He was



leading a combing operation against terrorists holed up in a densely forested area of Manigah in Kupwara when he was injured, they said.

"During the search, the officer along with his party approached the location of the terrorists. Suddenly, he was charged by a fdayeen and grievously

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