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LG calls upon youth to build 'Viksit Bharat'

Pradhan exudes confidence about SMVDU students leading technology-based era



LG Manoj Sinha and Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan addressing the 9th convocation of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, in Katra on Thursday.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATRA: The Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Thursday called upon the graduating students to set clear goals in professional career, identify problems and face them courageously to build Viksit Bharat@2047.

The Lieutenant Governor was addressing the 9th convocation of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, in Katra.

Union Minister of

Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Dharmendra Pradhan was the chief guest on the occasion.

Dharmendra Pradhan, Union Education Minister congratulated the students for starting their new journey.

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi has emphasized on giving priority to competency over degree. Shri Mata

Vaishno Devi University is a research and design-centric university. I have full confidence that the students of the prestigious institution will lead this technology-based era, and become a major contributor to the progress of the society, nation and the world in the times to come," the Union Minister said.

In his address, the Lt Governor Manoj Sinha asked the students to be patient,

pursue their dreams with passion and capitalize the opportunity to learn new skills.

"In the journey of Amrit Kaal, the country needs young consciousness and youthful thinking. Youth will shape the future. The world is changing faster than ever before and youth need patience to capitalize the opportunity to learn new skills. Never stop

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COVID-19 case detected in Jammu, sample sent for genome sequencing

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu has recorded its first COVID-19 case in a "long time" and the patient, who has mild symptoms, has been kept in home isolation, a senior doctor in Jammu and Kashmir said on Thursday.

However, he asserted that there is no need to panic as measures are in place to meet any challenge.

Government Medical College Hospital (Jammu) Principal Ashutosh Gupta said this was the first case detected in the city after a "long time" and the patient's sample has been sent for genome sequencing to deter-

mine if it was caused by

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Modi to inaugurate dev projects, flag off trains in Ayodhya on Dec 30



■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Ahead of the consecration ceremony at the Ram temple in Ayodhya, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate a slew of development projects in

the Uttar Pradesh city on December 30, including an airport and a redeveloped railway station, and flag off two new Amrit Bharat and six new Vande Bharat trains,

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J&K Panchayati Raj Act amended to incorporate OBC reservation

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Administrative Council (AC) which met here on Thursday under the chairmanship of the Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha approved carrying out amendments in Jammu and Kashmir Panchayati Raj Act, 1989 to incorporate definition of OBCs in the Act for ensuring their reservation in this grassroots democratic institution.

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

Earlier the draft J&K Panchayati Raj Act (Amendment) Bill 2023 was submitted to MHA, GoI and observations raised by MHA were examined and necessary amendments have been incor-

porated in the revised draft J&K Panchayati Raj Act (Amendment) Bill.

The Amendment bill proposes incorporation of definition of OBCs for providing reservation for the Other Backward Classes, explaining method of disqualification from membership of Halqa Panchayat, suspension and removal of Sarpanch, Naib-Sarpanch and Panch

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MHA promotes 36 IPS officers; Deepak Kumar as DGP; Anand Jain, Nitish Kumar, Chayya Sharma as ADGPs

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, on Thursday promoted 36 IPS officers.

"In pursuance to the recommendations of the Screening Committee in its meeting held on December 20, 2023, Deepak Kumar, IPS (AGMUT: 1993), currently posted in the cadre, has been

promoted to the DGP Grade (Level 16 in the Pay Matrix) with effect from January 1, 2024 or from the date of assumption of charge, whichever is later," read an order issued by Rakesh Kumar Singh, Under Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs.

"In pursuance to the recommendations of the Screening Committee, Chhaya Sharma, IPS (AGMUT: 1999), Anand Jain, IPS (AGMUT: 1999) and Nitish Kumar, IPS (AGMUT: 1999), currently posted in the cadre, are promoted to the ADGP Grade (LEVEL 15 in the Pay

Matrix) with effect from January 1, 2024 or from the date of assumption of charge, whichever is later," reads another order.

A separate order reads, "In pursuance to the recommendations of the Screening Committee in its meeting held on December 20, 2023, 32 IPS officers of

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Dayal appointed CRPF Chief, Nina to head CISE, Rasgotra is new ITBP Chief

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) chief Anish Dayal Singh was appointed as the Director General of Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) on Thursday, a Personnel Ministry order said.

Singh, a 1988-batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of Manipur cadre, was holding the additional charge of the CRPF following the retirement of incumbent S L Thaoson on November 30.

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved Singh's appointment as DG, CRPF up to December 31, 2024,

i.e. the date of his superannuation, it said.

Rahul Rasgotra, at present a special director in the Intelligence Bureau (IB), will be the new ITBP chief in place of Singh.

Rasgotra, a 1989-batch IPS officer of Manipur cadre, has been appointed to the post till September 30, 2025, i.e. the date of his superannuation, the order said.

Nina Singh has been appointed as the DG, Central Industrial Security Force (CISF).

Nina Singh, a 1989-batch IPS officer of

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PS Sherghari recognized among top three Police Stations in Country

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a significant milestone for the Jammu and Kashmir Police organisation, Police Station Sherghari, Srinagar has been declared as one of the best three Police Stations in the country for the year 2023.

This recognition highlights the exceptional dedication and service demonstrated by the law enforcement professionals at Police Station Sherghari.

Director General of Police, J&K, R.R. Swain has complimented SSP Srinagar, SHO & other officers and personnel of Police station Sherghari.

In his message, the DGP J&K has said that this recognition underscores the importance of continuously improving police services to support the community and build a positive organizational image. "This achievement is a testament to the

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Punjab's Mann Govt targeting Center to hide its failures: Chugh

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

CHANDIGARH: BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh on Thursday criticized Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann for politicizing the Republic Day celebrations by raising minor issues.

Chugh said that Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) has proved to be a failure on every front, hence due to disappointment and frustration, it is creating anti-centre sentiments to hide its dismal failure in governance.

He said that there is a very transparent and well-defined

system of selection of the state tableau by the committee constituted by the Defense Ministry. It is unfortunate that Bhagwant Mann does not desist from his petty politics on the subject of unity and integrity of the country. Such sentiments are not good for Punjab,

Punjabiyaat and nationalism, he added.

Chugh said that the Punjab Chief Minister is playing politics to hide the failure of the state government to prepare the tableau as per the theme of Republic Day. Republic Day is a matter of national pride, there should be no politics on it, he said.

Chugh said that last year also the AAP government had failed to prepare the state-specific tableau on this subject as per the rules of the Defense

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Pradhan's visionary discourse at IIM-J ignites young minds for Viksit Bharat @ 2047

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Indian Institute of Management Jammu (IIM) Jammu hosted Dharmendra Pradhan, Minister of Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Govt. of India, for a momentous visit that included a comprehensive review of ongoing construction activities.

This visit not only underscored the institute's steadfast commitment to academic excellence and innovation but also aligned seamlessly with the broader goals of national progress under the visionary initiative, "Viksit



Union Minister of Education Dharmendra Pradhan speaking at an event at IIM Jammu.

Bharat".

The event was presided by Padmashri Dr. Milind. P. Kamble, Chairman, Board of Governors, IIM Jammu, Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director,


IIM Jammu, Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean Academics, Cndr Kesavan Baskkaran, Chief Administrative Officer, IIM Jammu along with officials from the Ministry, faculty,

officers, staff and students of the Institute.

On the occasion, Dharmendra Pradhan planted a Rudraksha sapling, symbolizing growth and prosperity, in the permanent campus during the visit, commencing the event with a traditional lamp lighting ceremony.

Pradhan gave a detailed overview into the Ideas for the vision Viksit Bharat @2047 initiative. He mentioned about Prime Minister's Narendra Modi's governance philosophy, approach of uplifting

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WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 17.0°C Min: 5.8°C

Humidity
Max: 91 Min: 86

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 8.4°C Min: -3.3°C

Humidity
Max: 100 Min: 78

Sunset : 17:25 Hours
Sunrise : 07:28 Hours

Legal framework to be prepared to ensure Divyangjan's employment in private sector: LG

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Stating that 384 Divyangjan were provided government jobs during last financial year and reservation has increased from 3 percent to 4 percent, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Thursday announced that a legal framework will be prepared to ensure employment opportunities to Divyangjan in private sector.

"The posts whether under PSC or JKSSB will be filled within 6 months", the Lieutenant Governor said while inaugurating, along with Union Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment Dr. Virendra Kumar, J&K's first festival of Inclusion, Purple Fest, which aims to showcase a kaleidoscope of



LG Manoj Sinha hugging a Divyangjan after inaugurating Purple Fest in Jammu on Thursday.

abilities hidden inside disabilities and celebrating resilience of Divyangjan. The Union Minister joined the function virtually.

The Purple Festival is also a call for action to the people

and exhort the society to take proactive steps in creating a more inclusive environment. Jugal Kishore Sharma, Member of Parliament was also present.

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Post Art 370 abrogation, issuance of disability certificates streamlined: Sinha

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Thursday inaugurated the temporary Composite Regional Centre (CRC) for skill development, rehabilitation and empowerment of Divyangjan at Jammu.

The facility will cater to rehabilitation services for different categories of Divyangjan besides skill development training for their empowerment.

The Lt Governor said, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has brought significant change in attitude of society towards Divyangjan and paved the way for their empowerment for quality and independent living. He said, the Prime Minister has changed the thinking of the society towards the Divyangjan who were earlier used to be considered as dependent but now they are full of self-confidence, empowered and scripting new success in their life's journey.

Jammu Kashmir Administration is committed to empowerment of Divyangjan. Several steps have been taken in J&K post August 2019 to ensure empowerment and comprehensive rights of Divyangjan. District Level Committee has been formed, grievance redressal officer and nodal education officer has been appointed in all 20 districts, he said.

The Lt Governor observed that

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