

BLUE MOON
Banquets & Conventions
THE BANQUET WITH A DIFFERENCE

National Highway, Near Thandi Khul, Jammu
Contact: 9886035550, 9886035551

STATE TIMES

THE BOLD VOICE OF J&K

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

SOWING SKILLS

SHAPING INDIA

RNI No. : 66908/96 Vol. 29 Issue 349 • Jammu • Wednesday • December 18, 2024 • Pages 12 • ₹ 5.00
Regd. No. L-29/JK-346/22-24 Air surcharge 50 paise for Leh

03 Dr Jitendra launches 'Kisan Kavach', world's first anti-pesticide bodysuit for farmers

09 Udhampur-Baramulla Rail link ready, operations likely to start by January: Railway official

10 Boxing trials on Dec 22

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

One Nation One Election bills introduced in Lok Sabha; referred to JPC

UTs Amendment Bill to align elections in J&K, Puducherry, Delhi with LS

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: Two bills that lay down the mechanism to hold simultaneous elections were introduced in the Lok Sabha on Tuesday with Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal asserting that the legislation would not tamper with the powers enjoyed by states.

Later, the government referred One Nation One Election (ONOE) bills to Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) after a fiery debate in which the opposition termed the move "dictatorial".

The development came hours after Meghwal proposed that the bills be sent to the JPC.

The Constitution (129th Amendment) Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha by Meghwal after a nearly 90-minute debate, followed by

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9



'ONOE' will galvanise election process, lead to economic growth: Kovind

KOLKATA: Once the 'One Nation One Election' proposal by the Centre becomes functional, it will galvanise the election process and will also help in the economic growth of the country, former President Ram Nath Kovind said here on Tuesday.

Kovind was the chairman of the high-level committee on simultaneous elections that was constituted by the Centre in September 2023.

Speaking at a programme of a tribal organisation here, Kovind said voters are tired of meeting candidates of political parties seeking votes every year and probably do not want to face them so frequently. "Once the

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

BJP inquiring into absence of MPs during voting

NEW DELHI: The BJP is inquiring into the absence of its nearly 20 MPs from the Lok Sabha during the voting on Tuesday on the introduction of the bill for simultaneous elections.

As the party had issued a whip asking all its members to be present in the House, the absence of so many MPs has irked its leadership, sources said. However, they added that a number of MPs had informed in advance about their absence due to various personal and work-related reasons.

"We are definitely looking into the reasons behind their absence. Quite a few had genuine reasons," a senior leader said.

Some MPs, including Union minister C R Patil,

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Making J&K sportiest UT our dream: LG

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: "It is our dream to make Jammu and Kashmir sportiest UT and a leading power in various sports disciplines", Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said on Tuesday.

"I am hopeful that our sportspersons will continue the tradition of success and valour in National and International games to realise this dream," the Lieutenant Governor said while addressing the Prof. Chaman Lal Gupta Khel Ratna Award 2024 ceremony.

He felicitated the recipients of the prestigious sports award. The Lieutenant Governor also paid tributes to Prof. Chaman Lal Gupta.

The Lieutenant Governor congratulated the talented sportspersons and sports officials, who have been conferred with this year's award.

"All the sports personalities awarded today are living embodiments of the positive change taking

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9



LG Manoj Sinha addressing gathering at Prof Chaman Lal Gupta Khel Ratna Award ceremony in Jammu on Tuesday.

- ▶ Addresses Prof. Chaman Lal Gupta Khel Ratna Award Ceremony, felicitates recipients of prestigious award
- ▶ Terms sports as powerful tool for positive change, having always served as bridge to connect people of different cultures
- ▶ Vibrant sports ecosystem fulfilling aspirations of our youth
- ▶ All sports personalities awarded today are living embodiments of positive change taking place in J&K

CM inaugurates MRI, CT Scan Center at SVMM Charitable Hospital Ambphalla

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Tuesday inaugurated the MRI and CT Scan Center at Swami Vivekananda Medical Mission (SVMM) Charitable Hospital in Ambphalla, Jammu. Member of Legislative Assembly (Udhampur East) Pawan Gupta, President SVMM Charitable Hospital Anil Gupta, Patron Dr. Subash Gupta, President Jammu Chamber of Commerce & Industry Arun Gupta, along with members of the hospital's managing committee, faculty, staff, and other dignitaries were present on the occasion.



CM Omar Abdullah addressing gathering after inaugurating MRI, CT Scan Center at SVMM Charitable Hospital Ambphalla, Jammu on Tuesday.

Speaking at the launch, the Chief Minister commended the hospital for its exceptional services to the people. He remarked that institutions like SVMM Charitable Hospital exemplify the spirit of service, providing

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Shantmanu posted to J&K AGMUT Cadre

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Ministry of Home Affairs on Tuesday posted Shantmanu, the 1991 batch AGMUT Cadre IAS officer, to the Jammu and Kashmir segment of AGMUT cadre.

"Consequent upon repatriation from Central Deputation, Shantmanu, the 1991 batch AGMUT Cadre IAS officer, has been posted to the Jammu and

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

One Nation One Election bill will usher new era in celebration of Constitution: Chugh

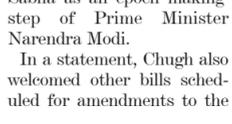
STATE TIMES NEWS
CHANDIGARH: BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh on Tuesday hailed the introduction of the Constitution (129th Amendment) Bill, 2024, popularly known as the Bill on "One Nation, One Election" (ONOE), by Union Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal in the Lok Sabha as an epoch making step of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

In a statement, Chugh also welcomed other bills scheduled for amendments to the

Government of Union Territories Act, 1963, the assembly elections in Delhi, Jammu Kashmir, and Puducherry with the proposed simultaneous elections.

Chugh said, "One Nation One Election bill is an example of the PM Modi government's commitment to ensuring the seamless and efficient functioning of our democratic processes. The provisions outlined in this bill will pave the way for the implementation of simultaneous elections across the country, a reform that promises

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9



NTA will be restructured in 2025, to only conduct higher education entrance exams: Pradhan

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: The NTA will not conduct any recruitment exams from 2025, instead focusing only on higher education entrance tests, Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan announced on Tuesday.

The agency will be restructured next year and new posts are being created, he added.

The move is part of examination reforms based on the recommendations of a high-level panel set up earlier this year following alleged leaks in the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET) medical entrance exam and a series of cancellations of others due to suspected leaks and other glitches.

NCERT textbooks to cost less from 2025

NEW DELHI: NCERT textbooks for some classes will cost less from next year, Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan announced on Tuesday.

The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), which currently prints five crore textbooks a year, is working to augment capacity to 15 crore from next year, he said.

The minister also informed that the new textbooks, according to the updated curriculum for classes 9-12, would be available from the 2026-27 academic session.

"In the next academic year, NCERT will publish 15 crore quality and affordable books... Currently, it publishes nearly five crore textbooks. Earlier, there were concerns about demand and supply about the textbooks. However, that will be addressed now," Pradhan told

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 23.0°C Min: 4.9°C

Humidity
Max: 66 Min: 56

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 9.9°C Min: -3.3°C

Humidity
Max: 92 Min: 68

Sunset: 17:32 Hours
Sunrise: 07:27 Hours

27 Years of Educational Excellence: Inspiring Generations, Shaping Futures

DELHI PUBLIC SCHOOL JAMMU
Under the aegis of The Delhi Public School Society, New Delhi Estd Since 1949 | CBSE Affiliation No. 730025

ADMISSIONS OPEN Session: 2025-2026 For Pre-Nursery to I

DPS Jammu (Junior Wing) - Where Every Child is a Star!

Childhood is a journey where dreams, play, and growth happen naturally, one step at a time.

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| REGISTRATION | December 19, 20 & 21, 2024 Timings: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM |
| FORM SUBMISSION | December 19, 20, 21 & 23, 2024 Timings: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM |
| ONLINE SUBMISSION | Website - www.dpsjammu.in |
| ENQUIRY | ☎ : 0191-2570480-81, M: 8899570480, ✉ jammu.dps@gmail.com |

WHY CHOOSE DPS JAMMU?

- World-Class Curriculum: Blending academics with creativity and life skills. Introducing structured play and early learning, building foundational literacy and numeracy
- Safe & Nurturing Environment: Your child's second home.
- Experienced Faculty: Passionate and trained educators, fostering curiosity and creativity.
- State-of-the-Art Infrastructure: Well-equipped classrooms, play areas, and learning facilities.
- Focus on Holistic Development: Strong academic and co-curricular foundation with emphasis on Academics, sports, arts, and moral values.
- The first flagship DPS school in J&K, proudly celebrating 27 years of proven excellence in education, fostering self-confidence, discipline, global connectivity, and a steadfast commitment to holistic development.

Limited Seats Available! Enroll Now to Secure Your Child's Future!

Give Your Child the Gift of Excellence in Education!

MAHARAJA HARI SINGH MARG, RESIDENCY ROAD, JAMMU-180001