

**03** Israel's Industry Minister calls on Dr Jitendra, discusses StartUps in Space, Quantum

**05** 'Widening of Akhnoor road on track'

**10** Reasi District Volleyball Championship from Dec 5

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## LG emphasises on police modernisation to address security challenges



LG Manoj Sinha chairing meeting to review the functioning of Home Department in Jammu on Tuesday.

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday emphasised on modernization and strengthening of Police and allied organisations to effectively deal with the security and law & order related challenges.

Chairing a high-level meeting to review the functioning of Home Department at Raj Bhawan,

the Lieutenant Governor directed for completion of all projects under SRE and PMDP within the stipulated time.

Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo; Principal Secretary, Home, Chandraker Bharti; DGP Nalin Prabhat; DGP Prisons, Deepak Kumar; ADGP Hqrs/Coordination, M.K Sinha; ADGP Law & Order; Vijay Kumar; ADGP Jammu, Anand Jain;

Director Fire & Emergency Services, Alok Kumar; ADGP CID, Nitish Kumar; Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor, Dr Mandeep K. Bhandari; IGP Kashmir, Vidhi Kumar Birdi and other senior officials of the J&K Police were present in the meeting.

The Lieutenant Governor was briefed on Security Related Expenditure (SRE), Manpower Positioning,

Infrastructure Works, and other important issues of Home and Sub-ordinate Departments including J&K Police, Prisons, Fire & Emergency Services, Home Guards, SDRF, Prosecution and Forensic Sciences.

The meeting also discussed effective Prison Management, Human Resource and other issues related to internal security and criminal justice system.

### JKRTC approves release of 20 pc DA for its employees

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Jammu & Kashmir Road Transport Corporation (JKRTC), following approval by Minister for Transport, Satish Sharma, on Tuesday released 20 percent Dearness Allowance (DA) in favour of its employees working in regular pay band/scale. Complimenting the employees, the

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### Maharashtra CM to be announced today

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: After almost two weeks since the Maharashtra Assembly election results were declared, the victorious Mahayuti alliance has finally signalled an end to the logjam over the state's chief ministerial candidate. The name of Maharashtra's next chief minister will be declared on Wednesday, December 4, a day before the swearing-in ceremony of the

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## CM directs complete ban on re-employment, extensions, additional charges, attachments

### Calls for addressing stagnation among JKAS officers



CM Omar Abdullah chairing review meeting of GAD in Jammu on Tuesday.

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: To ensure streamlined governance, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Tuesday gave directions to impose complete ban on re-employment, extensions, additional charges, and attachments, except in extraordinary circumstances.

Chairing a high-level meeting at the Civil Secretariat to review the functioning of the General Administration Department (GAD), the Chief Minister specifically

called for a review of attachments in the Health & Medical Education and Education departments.

"We must put an end to this practice," he asserted.

The Chief Minister held discussions on key aspects, including the working of J&K Public Service Commission, J&K Service Selection Board promotions, cadre management, trainings, transfers, and other administrative matters. Emphasizing the need to

address stagnation among JKAS officers, the Chief Minister directed the department to propose actionable solutions.

"Everyone deserves the opportunity to grow," he remarked.

The Chief Minister also inquired about the status and performance of employees appointed under the PM Package for Kashmiri Migrants.

Earlier, Commissioner Secretary GAD, Sanjeev

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## ED chargesheets six in 'Trathgola' fraud case

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The ED on Tuesday said it had filed a chargesheet against six Jammu and Kashmir residents, apart from some others, in a money-laundering case linked to the alleged duping of a Jammu-based businessman of about Rs 7 crore on the pretext of providing him with a 'magical' substance called "Trathgola".

The prosecution complaint was filed on November 25 against Mohammad Iqbal Bakerval, Muddasar Ali, Abdul Jalil (all residents of Channi Mansar in Samba district) and Batote (Ramban district) residents

Akhtar Mir, Parvez Mir, Iqbal Mir and some others under various sections of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), the Enforcement Directorate (ED) said in a statement.

The special court designated to try PMLA cases in Jammu has taken cognisance of the chargesheet and issued summonses to all the accused, it said.

The money-laundering case stems from a Jammu Police Crime Branch FIR against the accused for allegedly duping a Jammu-based businessman of Rs 6.90 crore on the pretext of providing

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## Par panel pitches for action plan to effectively combat Pak-backed terrorism

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The government should come out with an action plan to deal with Pakistan-sponsored terrorism as terrorist attacks in India can only be curbed by dismantling all terror networks and safe havens, a Parliamentary panel said on Tuesday.

In its report tabled in Lok Sabha, the committee on external affairs said India should mount coordinated global efforts to root out terror infrastructure in the neighbouring countries.

The committee desired that the government should keep up its diplomatic efforts to "expose the nefarious activities of Pakistan" and its links with various terrorist outfits at every forum.

It also called for strengthening India's land borders and sea routes to prevent

infiltration of terrorists into the country.

The parliamentary panel is headed by senior Congress lawmaker Shashi Tharoor.

"The committee also desire that the government should make regular assessment on whether the situation is conducive for resumption of high-level interaction with the Pakistan government and take steps accordingly," the report said.

It said the problem of terrorism in India is largely sponsored from across the border.

"Terrorist outfits are provided safe havens, material support, finance and other logistics by Pakistan's ISI (Inter-Services Intelligence) to carry out terrorist activities in India," the report said.

"The committee are of the firm view that terrorist attacks in the country can only be curbed by dismantling all terrorist networks and safe havens and recommend that an action plan/mechanism may be worked out at the earliest for effective sharing of resources, capacity enhancement and pooling of available experts of the central agencies," it said.

The committee also noted the challenges being faced by India in dealing with radicalism and recommended that the government should remain proactive and maintain close coordination with multilateral and regional bodies to combat the challenge.

"India should also play a prominent role in working out/evolving counter-radicalisation measures and institution-based mechanisms

## CJI Khanna recuses from hearing pleas against exclusion of CJI from panel selecting CEC, ECs

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Chief Justice of India Sanjiv Khanna on Tuesday recused from hearing a batch of pleas challenging the exclusion of the CJI from the panel meant for selecting the chief election commissioner and election commissioners.

At the outset, the CJI, who was sitting on the bench with Justice Sanjay Kumar, told the advocates appearing for the PIL petitioners that he couldn't hear the pleas now.

Senior advocate Gopal Sankaranarayanan and



lawyer Prashant Bhushan said the previous bench headed by Justice Khanna had passed interim orders in the matter. Justice Khanna, who has become the 51st CJI after former CJI D Y Chandrachud demitted

office, said the cases would now be listed before another bench after the winter break.

The CJI asked the Centre and others to file the responses to the PILs in the meantime.

Several persons including an NGO have challenged the validity and sought a stay on the operation of Section 7 of the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners Act, 2023, which excludes the CJI from the panel that picks the CEC and ECs.

### Body of VDG with bullet wound found in Udhampur Dist

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

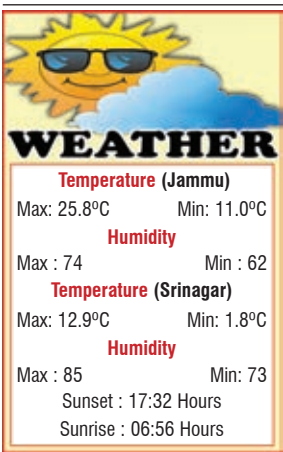
UDHAMPUR: The body of a Village Defence Guard (VDG) with a bullet wound was found in Udhampur district a day after he went missing, police said on Tuesday.

His rifle was recovered from the spot, they said. "The body of a VDG member, Ashok Kumar, with a bullet injury was found in the upper reaches of Chapper. However, it remains unclear whether he shot himself or was shot by someone else," a senior police officer told PTI.

After receiving information about the body, a police team was rushed to the spot. The body was shifted to a hospital for post-mortem. Kumar's rifle was found at the spot, the officer said.

The post-mortem report revealed that he was shot in the abdomen and the bullet was fired from his rifle, the officer added.

A case has been registered in the matter, police said.



**WEATHER**

**Temperature (Jammu)**  
Max: 25.8°C Min: 11.0°C

**Humidity**  
Max: 74 Min: 62

**Temperature (Srinagar)**  
Max: 12.9°C Min: 1.8°C

**Humidity**  
Max: 85 Min: 73

Sunset : 17:32 Hours  
Sunrise : 06:56 Hours

## Chandigarh first to fully implement new criminal laws: PM

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

CHANDIGARH: Chandigarh has become the country's first administrative unit where 100 per cent implementation of the three criminal laws has been done with Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday saying these new legislations are becoming protector of citizen's rights and the basis of ease of justice.

The laws -- Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, Bharatiya

Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita and Bharatiya Sakshya



Adhiniyam -- came into effect on July 1, replacing the British-era Indian Penal Code, Code of Criminal Procedure and the Indian

Evidence Act, respectively. Chandigarh has become the country's first administrative unit where 100 per cent implementation of the three laws has been done.

Speaking on the occasion, the prime minister said the new criminal laws represent a concrete step towards realising the ideals enshrined in the Constitution for the benefit of all citizens.

He said the new laws came into effect at a time when country is moving ahead

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### CB presents charge-sheet in cheating case

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Special Crime Wing (SCW) of Crime Branch Jammu on Tuesday filed a charge-sheet against an accused person for duping a B.Ed student with job promise.

The charge-sheet was filed in the Court of Special Mobile Magistrate Poonch for judicial determination of accused, Sartaj Khalid a resident of Salian Buziaz Surankote Poonch, in case FIR 33/2023 under Section 420-IPC of Police Station SCW Jammu.

The case was investigated by Inspector Deepak Thakur of Special Crime

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## UK Parliament raises concerns over attacks on Hindus in Bangladesh

### ■ AGENCY

LONDON: The British government continues to monitor the situation in Bangladesh as members of Parliament raised concerns over recent attacks on the minority Hindu community there and arrest of religious leaders, a senior minister said here. During an urgent question tabled in the House of Commons by Labour MP Barry Gardiner on Monday, the Foreign Office Minister in charge of the Indo-Pacific, Catherine West said that she had been given assurances by the interim government in Bangladesh that support was available for minority communities during her visit to Bangladesh last month.

She stressed that the UK was one of the first countries with ministerial support to arrive in Dhaka to speak with Chief Adviser Professor Yunus and be "vocal" in support of minorities.

"We are aware of the statement of concern from the Indian government

### No lawyer to represent Hindu monk in court

DHAKA: A Bangladesh court on Tuesday deferred to next month a hearing on the bail petition of Hindu monk Chinmoy Krishna Das, arrested on a sedition charge, as no lawyer appeared on his behalf.

Swatantra Gauranga Das, an associate of the monk at his Sammilita Sanatani Jagaran Jote, claimed that no lawyer represented the Hindu leader due to threats from a "politically motivated lawyers' group".

The bail hearing at the Chattogram court has now been postponed to January 2.

Das' arrest on November 25 had triggered demonstrations by supporters of the monk, who was previously with the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON). In Chattogram, an assistant government prosecutor, Saiful Islam Alif, was killed in a protest after the monk was denied bail.

The arrest also intensified the row between India and Bangladesh over attacks on Hindus after Sheikh Hasina was ousted as prime minister and an interim government headed by Nobel laureate

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following the arrest of Chinmoy Krishna Das, a well-known Hindu leader, on sedition charges. The UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) desk is closely monitoring those developments," said West.

"The UK government will continue to monitor the situation, including

making representations from this House, and will engage with the interim government in Bangladesh on the importance of freedom of religion or belief specifically as it affects the Hindu community," she said.

Tension between India and Bangladesh has been simmering since August 5, when deposed prime minister Sheikh Hasina fled to India. The situation aggravated further with Das' arrest last week. The Hindu community in Bangladesh has regularly faced attacks on its members and places of worship during the widespread protests against Hasina's Awami League-led government over a controversial job quota system.

The attacks have continued even after Muhammad Yunus, a Nobel laureate, took over as the Chief Adviser of the interim government on August 8. Gardiner, MP for Brent West in London with a large British Hindu population, described the situation as being "clearly on a knife edge" and raised concerns on behalf of the "large diaspora populations in the UK and large Hindu communities with strong links to the community in Bangladesh".

The shadow foreign secretary, Conservative MP Priti Patel, noted that the degree of escalation in the violence is "deeply, deeply concerning".

## 60 lakh new job cards issued under MGNREGS every year, Govt tells LS

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Sixty lakh new job cards are issued under the MGNREGS on average every year and the government has no role in the deletion of the job cards which is done based on various parameters, the Centre said on Tuesday.

Minister of State for Rural Development Chandra Sekhar Pemmasani told the Lok Sabha that 57 per cent of the rural development budget is allocated for the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) and asserted that Aadhaar-seeding of the cards enhances transparency.

He was responding to Congress leader K C Venugopal, who claimed that the names of 10.43 crore

MGNREGS workers have been deleted in the last four years.

Venugopal also wanted to know whether the deletions were linked to the Aadhaar-seeding requirement.

"Ninety-nine per cent of all job card holders have Aadhaar seeding. Aadhaar seeding is nothing but to increase transparency. It is not an obstacle," the minister said during the Question Hour.

According to Pemmasani, the deletion of job cards is based on five factors, including fake or duplicate cards and a person moving from one panchayat to another.

In case of the death of a person or if a person does not want to work under the scheme or if the area

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