

**03** Extending Tatkal facility in J&K in Passport issue rules will also shed some misconceptions about J&K

**03** Fadnavis to take oath as CM today, Modi to attend ceremony

**09** Sukhbir Badal escapes attempt on life at Golden Temple; former Khalistani terrorist arrested

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## CM stresses on minimizing distress cuts in power supply

**Unveils monitoring tool to streamline power curtailments in J&K**

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Wednesday emphasized minimizing distress cuts so that public begins to trust the schedule of power cuts notified by the Power Development Department. Chairing a comprehensive review meeting of the Power Development Department (PDD) at the Civil Secretariat, the Chief Minister reiterated the need for a clear and reliable curtailment programme, stressing that distressed curtailments should be rare and



CM Omar Abdullah chairing comprehensive review meeting of PDD at Civil Secretariat, Jammu.

well-communicated. "Deviations from announced curtailment schedules must be kept to an absolute bare minimum. While people are ready to accept planned curtailments, unexpected and prolonged power cuts are difficult for them to tolerate," he added. The meeting focused

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**2 dead, 14 injured as vehicle plunges into gorge**

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KISHTWAR: Two people were killed and 14 injured when a vehicle carrying workers of a private company skidded off the road and plunged into a deep gorge in Kishtwar district on Wednesday, officials said.

The accident took place near Dangduru when the workers of an under-construction power project were returning in a mini-bus from the dam site, they said. A rescue operation

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## CIK, SIA raids Central Jail in Srinagar

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The Counter Intelligence Kashmir wing of Police and State Investigation Agency (SIA) on Wednesday carried out searches at the Central Jail Srinagar as part of an investigation into a conspiracy between terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir and their handlers across the border.

"The searches at the Central Jail, Srinagar were conducted in pursuance to search warrants issued by the Honourable Court of



Special Judge, designated under the NIA Act, Srinagar in a case registered in 2023," officials said here.

During investigation of the instant case, the officials said it emerged that

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**Ex-serviceman, suspended teacher among 3 arrested for fraud**

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Crime Branch (CB) on Wednesday arrested three accused, including two notorious cheaters, Jameel Anjum, a suspended Govt Teacher of Naranhia Mohalla, Jammu and Saroop Lal, an Ex -serviceman of Bishnah/Bari Brahmana against whom several cases of cheating, forgery and frauds are registered. Three separate challans were produced in the courts in Jammu and Kathua.

"As many as 9 FIRs and 1 PV are registered against habitual offender

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## Terrorists attack Army post in Poonch; SFs search for ultras in Dachigam forest

**Hardcore OGW detained under PSA in Doda**



### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU/SRINAGAR: Terrorists hurled two grenades at an Army post in Poonch district of early

Wednesday, officials said. Only one of the grenades exploded. There were no casualties in the

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**Off-duty Army jawan shot at by terrorists**

SRINAGAR: An off-duty Army jawan was injured after being shot by terrorists in the Tral area of Pulwama district on Wednesday, officials said.

Delhair Mushtaq, a resident of Aripal area in Tral, sustained two bullet injuries on the legs. The incident occurred near his house at Soffigund, they said. Mushtaq was rushed

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## Why Did Mehbooba compare India with Bangladesh? Politics of viciousness!



DOST KHAN

There is a shout out for Mehbooba Mufti over her remarks drawing parallels between the treatment of minorities in Bangladesh and India. The BJP leaders have cried foul over such a statement of Mufti made in Jammu on Sunday

Mehbooba's comments were inappropriate, to say the least. As the BJP put it that these were against the country could be a typical political response of the party to the utterances that Kashmiri leaders like Mufti make to stir still waters. The BJP as a party of nationalists has every right to tell

Kashmiri leaders that they would have to adhere to certain limits, as they cannot take liberties to impinge upon the national interest. It is their duty as a national party driven by patriotism and nationalism, which the BJP performed.

### NEWS ANALYSIS

The anti-India utterances cannot go unchallenged. The crucial point is, why did Mehbooba say all this?

It was not an off-the cuff remark. This was a deliberate act with clear motivation and purpose to cater to vote politics, which is characteristic of politicians when they are on slippery ground. Otherwise, it is self-evident that there is, nor there could be any comparison between the two situations.

In Bangladesh, after the ouster of Sheikh Hasina, there is a very well-calculated attack on Hindus. It has become a state policy to harass and attack Hindus, their places of worship and their homes. This is a government patronized assault to convey a message to Hindus that Bangladesh is not their country, and they could live in the country only on the terms of the Islamist forces that have come to occupy the territory and its psyche with vengeance. They are having complete support of Pakistan's military establishment.

Bangladesh is persecuting Hindus because they represent a different faith and have distinct practices to worship. That is not to the

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Filing complaints directly with the RBI Ombudsman may lead to rejection.



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