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Slovenia Minister calls on Dr Jitendra, JU 5-year collaboration plan finalised

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IGNOU opens online portal for re-registration for January 2025 session

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

36th Reasi District Volleyball **Championship begins**

Omar vows to take up restoring statehood to J&K with PM, HM soon

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Thursday said he will take up with the issue of restoring statehood to Jammu and Kashmir with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah.

"The Prime Minister and the Home Minister were busy elections

Maharashtra Jharkhand. But now that they have time, this issue will be taken up so that J-K's statehood is restored soon, Abdullah told reporters after attending a function to commemorate the 42nd foundation day of SKIMS Hospital

The foundation for the ter tiary care hospital was laid on the birth anniversary of National Conference founder Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah on this day in 1982, less than three months after his

Asked if the holiday on the NC founder's birth anniversary will be restored, the Chief Minister said there are many things that need to be

CM addresses 42nd Annual Day Celebrations of SKIMS

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Thursday addressed the 42nd Annual Day celebrations of the Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS), Soura, held in the

torium. On the occa sion, the Chief Minister e-inaugurated and laid e-foundation al projects, highlighting the gov- ${
m ernment's \ com}$ mitment strengthening healthcare infra-

Institute's audi-



structure. Addressing the gathering, the Chief Minister underscored the indispensable role SKIMS has played in enhancing the healthcare system of Jammu and Kashmir.

He praised the Institute for its invaluable services and its readiness to respond in times of

He further noted that SKIMS provides technologically advanced and evidence-based healtheare services to the general public

Chief Minister congratulated SKIMS administration, faculty, and staff for their exemplary performance, particularly during the challenging times of the COVID-19 pandemic and other crises. Reflecting on the vision of Sher-i-Kashmir Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah, the Chief Minister remarked that SKIMS was founded to offer advanced healthcare facilities within J&K, reducing the need for patients to seek treatment outside ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

brought back in Jammu and Kashmir, but the priority is to restore its statehood first.

the prompt resolution of

grievances and oversee the

"There are many other dates as well, but we have to fight a bigger contest. We

have to fight for the restoration of J-K's statehood.

LG expresses grief over Dangduru road accident

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, has expressed grief over the tragic road accident in Dangduru,

In a condolence message, the Lieutenant Governor has

"I am deeply saddened to learn about the loss of precious lives in an unfortunate road accident in Kishtwar. My sincere condolences to the bereaved families. Praying for the early recovery of the injured. I have directed the District Administration to provide all necessary assistance to the affected families".

Modi to review Maha **Kumbh preparations** on Dec 13

STATE TIMES NEWS PRAYAGRAJ: Minister Narendra Modi will visit Mahakumbhnagar and Prayagraj on December 13 to review the preparations for the 2025 Mahakumbh and inaugurate various projects here, officials said on

Thursday. The area on the banks of Sangam in Prayagraj, where the upcoming Maha

Fadnavis takes oath as Maharashtra CM; Shinde, Pawar as Dy CMs

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

MUMBAI: Fadnavis on evening took oath as Maharashtra Chief Minister, while leaders of the BJP-led Mahayuti alliance, Eknath Shinde and Ajit Pawar, were sworn in as deputy chief ministers at a grand ceremony in south Mumbai's sprawling Azad Maidan.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, several Union ministers and chief ministers of various states besides thousands of supporters of the Mahayuti alliance were present at the ceremony, which took place almost a fortnight after results of the assembly elections were declared on November 23.

No other ministers were sworn in. The ministry will be expanded next week. ahead of the winter session of state legislature in Nagpur, sources said.

Those present included Union ministers Amit Shah, J P Nadda, Rajnath Singh, Nitin Gadkari and Shivraj Singh Chouhan. Chief ministers of various NDA-ruled



Shinde and Ajit Pawar after oath taking ceremony in Mumbai

Collective efforts behind Mahayuti's historic mandate: Modi

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday auded the new government in Maharashtra as a blend of experience and dynamism and said it is due to the collective efforts of Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis and his two leputies that the Mahayuti alliance got a historic mandate. In a post on X, Modi congratulated Fadnavis and two

leputy chief ministers, Eknath Shinde of the Shiv Sena and Aiit Pawar of the Nationalist Congress Party, on taking oath "This team is a blend of experience and dynamism and it is lue to this team's collective efforts that the Mahayuti has go historic mandate in Maharashtra. This team will do every thing possible to fulfil the aspirations of the people of the state and to ensure there is good governance," he said.

Modi assured all possible support from the Centre in fur thering development in Maharashtra. The prime minister, several Cabinet ministers, chief ministers and deputy CMs of the BJP-led NDA-ruled states attended the oath-taking ceremony in Mumbai earlier in the evening.

Police raids houses of four suspected

Govt establishes CM's Public Services and Outreach Office

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir government on Thursday ordered establishment of the 'Chief Minister's Services Public Outreach Office' within the CM Secretariat to ensure efficient grievance redressal and enhanced public service delivery through direct citizen engagement.

According to a government order, the office will initially function with two specialized wings at the central level, each led by an officer of the rank of Special Secretary/ Additional Secretary

"The Grievance Redressal Wing (Raabita) will focus on

2 houses in Shopian

attached in terror case

SRINAGAR: In a significant

mover to counter terrorism.

authorities on Thursday

attached two houses in

Shopian district in a terror

case connection under the provisions of the Unlawful

Activities (Prevention) Act,

taken strict action by attach-

ing two double-storied resi-

dential properties under

Section 25 of the Unlawful

Activities (Prevention) Act,

1967 (UAPA)," a police

He said the attached hous-

es are registered in the

names of Mohd Shafi Dar,

father of terrorist Adnan

Shafi Dar, resident of Wandina, on land measuring

four Marlas, Khasra No. 14, situated at village Wandina and Abdul Majeed Koka,

father-in-law of terrorist

associate Sajad Ahmad

Khah, resident of Melhoura,

■ CONTO ON PAGE 9

on land measuring

spokesperson said.

Police in Shopian has

police said.

STATE TIMES NEWS

Uproar in RS, BJP MP raises 'attacks' on India's interests from abroad

LS adjourned for day amid protest over

NEW DELHI: Lok Sabha proceedings were adjourned for

the day on Thursday over BJP member Nishikant Dubey's

remarks targeting Leader of the Opposition Rahul Gandhi

and seeking to link him to a US-based multi-billionaire.

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The Rajya performance of regional and district offices in addressing Sabha on Thursday witpublic concerns. nessed uproarious scenes in the morning when BJP MP Public Outreach ${\bf Evaluation\text{-}cum\text{-}Feedback}$ Sudhanshu Trivedi alleged Wing will engage with citizens through outreach programs, monitor the Public Service Guarantee Act cuss the serious issue. (PSGA), collect feedback on

governance and service delivand recommend improvements based on evaluations of government initia-Hour, Trivedi cited instances To enhance accessibility during the past three years wherein issues concerning India were raised by internaoffice will utilize an

attacks by foreign forces on India's national interests and demanded a thorough probe besides asking all MPs to dis-Speaking on 'Concerns over Suspicious and Conspicuous Attacks on National Interest from Abroad' during Zero

After two earlier adjournments, the House resumed at 3 pm to pass the the Railways (Amendment) Bill, 2024, amid noisy protests by members of the opposition. Jagdambika Pal, who was in the Chair, tried to calm the opposition and asked Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw to reply to the debate on the Bill. However, the protest by the

opposition did not allow the House to function. As the uproar continued, Pal adjourned the House for the day. During Zero Hour at noon, Dubey **CONTD ON PAGE 9**

during Parliament sessions. Hindenburg report, Covid

Indian farmers, a BBC docuvideo on violence against

women in Manipur during Three women among 4

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Four alleged drug

Kumar alias Parveen "Pinna", Rekha Kumari alias "Kajal", Jyoti Bala alias "Ramta" andRashmi Langeh - residents of village Chorli, Bishnah -- were arrested based on a tip-off, a police officer said.

He said that the accused were part of a network responsible for drug distribution among the local youth. A case under

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the past three years. He also cited the recent report on the indictment of an Indian business house by a US attorney just ahead of the Winter Session.

"Ever since India is emerging as a strategic, economic and diplomatic power, it has been seen that in the last three years there have been attempts to attack India's established systems and interests on economic and social fronts through activities from abroad," he said.

He also quoted a recent report by a French publication that certain foreign

terror associates in Poonch STATE TIMES NEWS believed to have been provid-MENDHAR/POONCH:

Police carried out searches at the residences of four suspected over-ground workers of terrorists in border district of Poonch on Thursday As part of its efforts to curb anti-national activities, an official said.

According to a police spokesperson, the searches were conducted at the houses of Mohd Nasar of Mehmood Sakhimadan, Hussian of Dehri Dabsi, Mohd Khalid of Dharana and Abdul Aziz of Bhatidhar in Mendhar sub-division.

individuals whose ing logistical support, shelter, and other assistance to terrorists operating in the area," he said.

The search operations were meticulously planned to gather evidence and disrupt activities that pose a threat to peace and stability in the region, the police spokesperson said.

Senior officials overseeing the operation have emphasised their commitment to wiping out all elements involved in anti-national activities and ensuring the safety of civilians, he said

The Jammu and

CI lays foundation stone for new court complex, Anantnag

tional entities just before or



Chief Justice Tashi Rabstan addressing gathering at Anantnag.

STATE TIMES NEWS

ANANTNAG: Chief Justice of High Court of J&K and Ladakh, Tashi Rabstan, accompanied by Justice Vinod Chatterjee Koul, Judge, High Court of J&K Ladakh, and Administrative Judge for District Anantnag,

Thursday visited Anantnag and laid foundation stone for the proposed new court building.

This milestone signifies a progressive step towards enhancing judicial infrastructure to ensure more efficient access to justice.

The event witnessed partic-

ipation of notable dignitaries including Shahzad Azeem, Registrar General, High Court of J&K and Ladakh, Tahir Khurshid Raina, Principal District & Sessions Judge, Anantnag, Masarat Roohi, Additional District & Sessions Judge Anantnag, Syed Fakhrud Din Hamid, DC Anantnag, G.V. Sundeep Chakravarthy, Anantnag, Manzoor Ahmad Khan, Designated Judge for NIA/Special Anantnag, Feroz Ahmad

Chief

Khan.

Magistrate

Muzamil Ahmad

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Judicial

Anantnag,

drug peddlers arrested

peddlers including three women were arrested on Thursday along with 40.5 grams of heroin and some sharp-edged weapons here, police said.

Police, BSF conduct joint patrolling along Indo-Pak Border



Senior Police and BSF officials carrying out patrolling along Indo-Pak border on Thursday.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS JAMMU: A joint patrolling

exercise by Jammu and Kashmir Police and Border Security Force was on Thursday conducted along the Indo-Pak Border in the

Pargwal Area, located along the Chenab River.

The DIG Jammu-Kashmir Range, Shiv Kumar Sharma, accompanied Joginder Singh, SP

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Army soldiers open fire after observing suspicious movement near LoC

POONCH: An Army ambush party opened fire after observing suspicious movement near the Line of Control (LoC) in Poonch district, officials said on Thursday.

The troops on ambush duty along the possible infiltration routes picked up suspimovement near Bagyaldara village late on Wednesday night and fired a few rounds. Simultaneously, the cordon around the

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challenges J&K Police's new responsibilities and



n the recent weeks a new Lurgency has been discovered with regard to the security situation in Jammu and Kashmir .This is a good news as the leadership at the national level has not lost sight of the new security challenges facing this Union Territory. It has shown increasing awareness and

responsibility in pushing the security issues to the point where it can rid J&K of all its dangers.

What is important is that, the national leaders, in particular Prime Minister and Home Minister, despite celebrating the fact of 70 per cent decline in the terror-related incidents in Jammu and Kashmir, have not given up the idea of securing 100 percent success. They have not stopped their efforts that are why there are regular assessment and re-assessment of the situation with regard to J&K. There were two options before the Government to allow the things to take a natural course after 70 percent success, which is quite high in terms of statistics and its delivery on the ground, or to put in extra efforts to cover the rest of the 30 per cent of uncovered terrain. The PM and HM have chosen the latter approach

Within J&K, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, who is responsible to address the whole spectrum of the security challenges, has been reviewing the security situation on a regular basis. This has become a guidepost for tackling the externally-inspired threats and the internal dimensions of it. Manoj Sinha has a knack, and has

sharpened it further ever since he took office on August 7, 2020, a year after the abrogation of Article 370.

His mantras were clear: "We will not buy peace but establish it," and that no mercy would be shown to terrorists, their facilitators and sympathizers in tune with the overarching strategy of zero tolerance of terrorism. For the first time in the history of terrorism battered J&K, an assault was launched on the ecosystem in which various wings of the system and outside of it formed the structure from foundation to top. Sinha, when seen in this role, was and is

performing a national duty assigned to him, to take care of J&K internally and integrate it with the national mainstream.

While reviewing function of the Home Department of the UT of J&K, the Lieutenant Governor listed a host of tasks to the police - asking it to modernize itself to meet challenges of future. J&K police have a special responsibility in dealing with the challenges that have cropped up in this territory over the decades. The turbulent history of J&K coupled with the external threats **NEWS ANALYSIS**

has made it vulnerable to destabilization. The police have played a critical role since 1990s to take on terrorists and saving the place from many of the potential attacks.

There is a need to understand that J&K police is not what it was when the militancy erupted in late 1988-89. It has now come to play a frontline role in fighting and eliminating terrorists. This is something which was unthinkable in 1989 when Kashmir erupted to the surprise and shock of all security agencies. The Police were no exception. The police had its local orientation, it had its advantages but also its vulnerabilities to pressures of the local environment of the day. At that stage, too, the police summoned its strength and helped in securing VIPs, officialdom and leaders. It was no mean task because even a single killing of a VIP and official would strengthen the adversary drawing its inspiration and encouragement from Pakistan. But the police took its frontline in late 1990s. It became more pronounced in early 200s and magnified in 2012 onwards. The police leadership made the dif-

As it is evident from the contents that have surfaced after the Tuesday's meeting, this role has become more challenging .Today Artificial Intelligence, Cyber world, and the new narratives have become bigger challenges. The police have not only to shoulder the responsibility of shielding and saving the population from externally sponsored elements and devices, but also to neutralize the internal dynamics. The cops have to stay ahead of their adversaries, and enemies of the nation, by miles to beat them. That's where LG Sinha's call for modernization holds greater relevance.

WEATHER Max: 23.2°C Max: 79

Max: 12.4°C Max: 94 Min: 71 Sunset: 17:32 Hours Sunrise: 06:56 Hours