

!! Continuations from Page 1 !!

J&K would be...

of Sardar Patel. "With abrogation of Article 370, he has weaved entire India in the thread of unity and realized the resolution of one flag, one constitution and one leader in one country," the Lieutenant Governor said. The Lieutenant Governor highlighted that Prime Minister's initiatives- 'One Nation, One Tax', 'One Nation, One Ration Card', 'One Nation, One Health Card', 'One Nation, One Grid', 'National Education Policy', 'PM Gati Shakti', 'Kashi-Tamil Sangamam' and various other programmes have strengthened the unity of the country. The Lieutenant Governor called upon youth to strengthen the pillars of Unity. "There are three important pillars of unity - shared values, shared identity and a common purpose act as a unifying force for sustained progress and development," the Lieutenant Governor said.

Parliament no place...

parties against allowing frustration over electoral defeats to overshadow parliamentary proceedings. "The Winter Session must reflect balance, responsibility and the dignity expected from public representatives," he said. The record turnout witnessed in the Bihar elections is the biggest strength of democracy, he said, adding the Opposition too should fulfil its responsibility and come out of its 'depression' after the loss in elections. The prime minister said the game the Opposition has been playing for the last 10 years is no longer acceptable to the people. "They should change their strategy - I am ready to give them a few tips," Modi said. He urged all parties to recognise the purpose of Parliament and "come out of the frustration of defeat". Prime Minister Modi added that he had heard statements of leaders of certain opposition parties that suggest their inability to accept electoral outcomes. "There are one or two parties that are unable to accept their defeat. From the statements I heard yesterday, it seems that the loss has deeply troubled them," he said. The prime minister also stressed that opportunities should be given to the new generation of Members of Parliament. "The House should benefit from their experiences, and through this House, the nation should also gain from their fresh perspective," Modi said.

262 Army cadets...

of their journey in uniform, rifles firm and spirits strong. "Amid the wintry air and beneath the solemn heights of the Trikuta hills, 262 valiant sons of Jammu and Kashmir inscribed their legacy into the annals of valour at the Jammu and Kashmir Light Infantry Regimental Centre, Dansal," a defence spokesperson said. "With martial music echoing through the parade ground, the recruits marched with discipline and pride, reflecting their training and commitment to the nation," the spokesperson said.

CBI arrests 'absconder'...

and TADA Act during the Year 1989. "The absconder is carrying a reward of Rs. 10 lakh on his head. He will be produced before the TADA Court Jammu, within the stipulated time as per law," the CBI Spokesperson said. According to officials, Shangloo was allegedly an office bearer of the banned terror group and was handling the outfit's finances. The CBI, along with the Jammu and Kashmir Police, arrested Shangloo from his residence in the Nishat area in Srinagar after following the due legal process, the officials said. Malik, who has been attending the court hearings through video-conferencing, has been identified by eyewitnesses, including Rubaiyya Sayeed. The JKLF chief, who is serving a jail term in Delhi's Tihar Jail in a terror financing case, is not produced in the court physically due to a Ministry of Home Affairs order restricting his movement. During the court hearings, Sayeed had identified four other accused besides Malik of being involved in the heinous crime. She was abducted from near Lal Ded Hospital in Srinagar on December 8, 1989, and was freed five days later after the then V P Singh government, which was supported by the BJP, at the Centre released five terrorists in exchange. Now living in Tamil Nadu, Sayeed is listed as a prosecution witness by the CBI, which took over the case in 1990. Malik, 56, was sentenced by a special National Investigation Agency (NIA) court in May last year. He was arrested in early 2019 in connection with the 2017 terror financing case registered by the NIA. In order to expedite the trial, the CBI had appointed its senior counsel Monika Kohli as the chief prosecutor after framing charges against Malik in the much-publicised cases related to the Sayeed's abduction and killing of four IAF personnel in Srinagar more than three decades ago. Kohli, a leading lawyer, has been representing the CBI as a retainer counsel in the High Court for the last one decade and had successfully opposed bail to Malik in the two sensational cases which had taken place in 1989-90 when militancy broke out in the valley. A special TADA court has already framed charges against Malik and nine others in the kidnapping case of Sayeed.

Eight terrorists slain...

vital installations and providing security to the people of Kashmir, in coordination with police and other security agencies, he added. Yadav said the most remarkable achievement of the BSF during 2025 has been Operation Sindoor. "BSF units along with the Indian Army had effectively executed fire assaults on Pak posts and terrorist launching pads along the LoC, displaying strong, accurate and professional response. "All BSF units of the Kashmir Frontier, including its artillery regiments, had carried out heavy and accurate shelling and firing on enemy posts and bunkers, causing huge causality to Pak troops, heavy damage to their forward posts, and complete destruction of some of the terrorists' launch pads along the LoC," the IG said. He said the BSF's effective action against the enemy during Operation Sindoor was greatly appreciated by the country's leadership. The BSF Kashmir Frontier has deployed Mahila Troops in forward areas along the LoC -- at high altitudes and at round-the-clock checkpoints on roads approaching LoC -- to intercept female couriers and sympathisers of terror outfits and smuggling networks, Yadav said. "Our Mahila troops have gained confidence of female folks of border villages and have been playing a key role in countering anti-national activities, in coordination with local women," he added.

NC's Chowdry Ramzan...

felicitate Vice President C P Radhakrishnan on assuming the role of Rajya Sabha Chairman. Ramzan acknowledged that he did not know the chairperson well and said "the biggest thing that many speakers here have said is that you have been a social worker in your life. And no one comes to these big seats unless there is a lot of sacrifice and a history of public service behind it." However, Ramzan quickly raised the issue of governance in Jammu and Kashmir, saying that while free and fair elections were held in the Union Territory in 2024, the elected government holds little executive authority on the affairs of the governance. At this point, the Rajya Sabha chairman intervened urging Ramzan to adhere to the designated subject of the welcome address and that he would be given a different slot for raising concern related to Jammu and Kashmir. Despite the intervention, Ramzan pressed his point, emphasising the strategic importance and historical context of Jammu and Kashmir: "...You know what has happened in Jammu and Kashmir in the last decades. We have to strengthen it," he said, arguing that the massive mandate given by the people for the first time to an elected government is meaningless if it is effectively powerless. The maiden speech of Ramzan drew appreciation from Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, who was in the visitors' gallery witnessing the oath ceremony with his advisor Nasir Wani. "First day first show. Well done...Ch Mohd Ramzan for using the first available opportunity to remind the union government of its promise about restoration of statehood to Jammu and Kashmir," the CM said on X. NC chief Farooq Abdullah also extended his wishes to the newly elected Rajya Sabha MPs and said "they will work for the best interests of people of Jammu and Kashmir". Earlier, as the proceedings of the Rajya Sabha began, Ramzan took oath in Kashmiri, while Kichloo took it in Urdu and Oberoi did the same in Punjabi.

Extending his wishes to Oberoi as he walked into the Rajya Sabha for the first time, Omar Abdullah said, "...You carry a lot of hopes and expectations on your shoulders." The chief minister also congratulated Kichloo for beginning his new innings in his political career. "The people of J and K, especially of the Chenab Valley will look to him with a lot of hope and watch closely as he represents their aspirations." Kichloo also thanked all the MLAs of Jammu and Kashmir through a post on X and said, "...this mandate is not a privilege but a profound responsibility -and I remain resolute in serving my people with integrity and unwavering commitment."

Winter Session Day...

and discussions," he said. However, the opposition members ignored the pleas and continued the protests, leading to adjournment of proceedings for the day. Amid the uproar, a bill to implement amendments to the GST law in Manipur was passed after a brief discussion. The Bill was introduced earlier in the day by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman to replace an ordinance on the issue. The state is under President's rule, hence Parliament is using its powers to pass the legislation. Before being adjourned for the day around 2.20 PM, the House saw two earlier adjournments during the Question Hour in the morning and later in the afternoon. Several Opposition members trooped into the Well shouting slogans and protesting over SIR, as they have been demanding a debate on the issue. During the 12 minutes of the Zero Hour, Sitharaman introduced three bills besides tabling supplementary demands for grants for 2025-2026. Two bills to levy excise duty on tobacco and tobacco products, as well as a new cess on the manufacture of pan masala, were introduced. They are the Central Excise (Amendment) Bill, 2025, and the Health Security and National Security Cess Bill, 2025. The Election Commission had announced SIR in Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Puducherry, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. Among these, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Kerala, and West Bengal will go to polls in 2026. In Assam, where polls are also due in 2026, the revision of electoral rolls was announced separately. It is being called 'Special Revision'.

Govt not averse...

party yesterday in the all-party meeting or Business Advisory Committee (BAC) today. What I am saying is, it is under the consideration of the government," Rijiju said. "...if you put a condition that it has to be taken up today itself, then it becomes difficult, because you have to give certain space," he added. The minister informed that certain opposition parties raised matters other than the SIR and stressed the need to protect their rights as well. "However, I am saying again, the matter related to whatever you call it, special intensive revision or electoral reforms or whatever. I have stated before the beginning of the winter session that the government is not averse to taking up discussion on anything," Rijiju said. "Please give us some time while there are other businesses, which are listed, that can be taken up. The demand, which you have put forward, has not been rejected. So, don't presume that the government is not ready to discuss any matter," the minister said, adding that "Please do not put a condition on the timeline". Earlier, Leader of Opposition Mallikarjun Kharge demanded that the discussion should start immediately. He also asked the ruling party not to divide opposition parties. "Don't divide us. If you try to divide us, we will be stronger." TMC leader Derek O'Brien called for the start of a discussion on electoral reforms with immediate effect, while CPI (M) member John Brittas said the Parliamentary Affairs Minister should honour his words and the House should hold a discussion on electoral reforms. The Election Commission had announced SIR in Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Puducherry, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. Among these, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Kerala, and West Bengal will go to the polls in 2026. In Assam, where polls are also due in 2026, the revision of electoral rolls was announced separately. It is being called 'Special Revision'.

Fresh snowfall in...

mercury settled at minus 3.2 degrees Celsius in north Kashmir's Kupwara. South Kashmir's Kokernag recorded a minimum temperature of 0.2 degrees Celsius, the officials said. Pahalgam tourist resort recorded a low of minus 0.4 degrees Celsius, an increase of more than five degrees compared to the previous night. Gulmarg skiing resort in north Kashmir recorded a low of 0.3 degrees Celsius, an increase of two degrees over the past 24 hours.

Week-long Training Programme on Geospatial Applications in Agriculture begins at SKUAST-J

■ STATE TIMES NEWS JAMMU: A week-long training programme on "Geospatial Applications in Agriculture" commenced today at Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology of Jammu (SKUAST-Jammu). The programme, organised under HADP Project 19 on Soil and Land Resource Information System, aims to build the capacity of researchers, extension professionals and scholars in remote sensing, GIS and their practical applications in precision farming and natural resource management. Presiding over the inaugural session, Vice-Chancellor Prof. B.N. Tripathi welcomed the participants and emphasized the transformative role of geospatial technologies in modern agriculture. He underscored how remote sensing and GIS tools help map soil variability, plan irrigation, monitor crop health, and support climate-smart decision-making. These technologies, he said, allow targeted use of fertilizers, pesticides and irrigation, reducing input wastage and increasing farm efficiency. Dr. Anil Kumar, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, highlighted the use of geospatial data in mapping soil types, nutrient status, moisture levels and erosion risks-critical elements for land-use planning and sustainable soil management. Dr. Sushil Sharma, Dean, Faculty of Agricultural Engineering, discussed GIS-based climate and risk assessments, including drought severity, flood risks and weather variability. Such assessments, he noted, are vital for climate-resilient agriculture, disaster preparedness and crop insurance planning. Prof. Vikas Sharma, Head, Soil Science and Principal Investigator of the project, welcomed the guests and provided an overview of the programme, emphasizing skill development in geospatial technologies. The training will include classroom lectures, software demonstrations and practical sessions, covering fundamentals of remote sensing and GIS, satellite data access and preprocessing, crop classification, soil-moisture and drought monitoring, field-data integration and hands-on exercises using GIS tools. Programme Organiser Dr. Vikas Sharma informed that the workshop will feature experts from SKUAST-J's geospatial lab along with specialists from CRIDA Hyderabad, JK Remote Sensing Agency and ESRI. Participants will receive certificates upon completion. Prof. Vikas Abrol delivered the vote of thanks, while Prof. Vivak M. Arya conducted the proceedings. The programme is expected to significantly enhance participants' technical skills and strengthen research, extension and farm advisory services across the region.

Shah greets BSF on Raising Day

■ STATE TIMES NEWS NEW DELHI: The Border Security Force (BSF) has always upheld the honour of the nation and shielded the well-being of the citizens with Himalayan resolve and steely valour; Union Home Minister Amit Shah said on Monday. Extending greetings to the force, that guards borders with Pakistan and Bangladesh, on its raising day, the Union minister of home affairs in a post on 'X' said, "Warm greetings to BSF personnel and their families on their Raising Day." "A force synonymous with fiery patriotism, the @BSF India as always upheld the honour of the nation and shielded the well-being of the citizens with Himalayan resolve and steely valour," he said in the post. He further said that the undying flame of patriotism that the BSF has kept alight with their supreme sacrifice will continue to show the path to generations of Indians. "Salutations to the brave hearts who made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty," Shah added. With 193 battalions and more than 2.76 lakh personnel, the BSF protects and monitors the entire 2,279 km border with Pakistan and the 4,096 km border with Bangladesh besides rendering a variety of duties in the country's internal security domain.

2 drug peddlers arrested in Pulwama

■ STATE TIMES NEWS SRINAGAR: Police on Monday arrested two alleged drug peddlers in Pulwama district and seized 1.13 kg of contraband from them, officials said. "In a major strike against the narco-terror supply chain, J-K police achieved remarkable success by arresting two drug peddlers in Pulwama and seizing 1.13 kg of brown sugar-like substance during routine checking," a police spokesperson said. The spokesperson said a vigilant police party at Rahmoo Bridge Naka intercepted a suspicious vehicle with two people inside. "During a thorough search of the vehicle, the team recovered the brown sugar-like substance and foiled an attempt to push a large narcotic consignment into the district. The two suspects were arrested, and the vehicle used in the commission of the offence was seized," he said. Those arrested persons have been identified as Muneer Ahmed Sheikh and Toufeeq Ahmed Sheikh. The spokesperson said the contraband substance was worth crores of rupees, but did not quantify the amount. A case under relevant sections of the NDPS Act was registered at Rajpora police station in Pulwama, the spokesperson said. An investigation is underway to identify the entire supply chain, including the source and intended receivers of the consignment, he added.

Samba police arrests drug peddler with 4.15 grams heroin

■ STATE TIMES NEWS SAMBA: Continuing its drive against drug smugglers & peddlers, Samba Police has arrested a drug peddler in the jurisdiction of Police Station Vijaypur and recovered approximately 4.15 grams heroin like substance from his possession. Acting on information received from reliable sources, a Police team of Police Station Vijaypur during special Naka at Rakh Barotain near AIIMS residence complex Vijaypur, intercepted a person under suspicious circumstances who was coming from Rakh Barotain side and moving towards NHW in a motorcycle without registration number. During frisking, approximately 4.15 grams heroin like substance was recovered from the possession of said person. The drug peddler identified as Deeraj Sharma S/O Mool Raj Sharma R/O Jib Tehsil and District Udhampur has been arrested and the contraband item has been seized. The motorcycle has also been seized in the instant case. A case FIR No 136/2025 U/S 8/21/22/25 NDPS Act has been registered at PS Vijaypur and investigation started.

Tributes paid by JKAACL to Punjabi fiction writer H S Sagar

■ STATE TIMES NEWS JAMMU: A condolence meeting was organized by Jammu & Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages (JKAACL) at K L Saigal Auditorium Hall, Writers' Club, Jammu, today, under the guidance of Smt. Harvinder Kour, Secretary, JKAACL, to condole the demise of prominent Punjabi fiction writer, S. Harbhajan Singh Sagar. He passed away at the age of 82 years, on 28th November, 2025, after a long illness. Intellectuals and writers' community assembled at the K L Saigal Auditorium to pay rich tributes to Late. Harbhajan Singh Sagar. Prominent writers, poets and intellectuals like Joginder Singh Pandhi, Dr. Monojit, Dr. J B Singh, H S Uppal, Popinder Singh Paras, Dr. Arvinder Singh Ann, Dr. Baljit Singh Raina, Dr. Javaid Rahi, Ajit Singh Mastana, Khalid Hussain expressing their views on the life and contribution of Harbhajan Singh Sagar in the field of Punjabi literature, gave an elaborate sketch of eventualities in his journey in life. They also reflected on the personality factors of Sagar, like his humility, soberness and weighing others with equality. It was told that H S Sagar has been a very sober and cool minded and a committed person. His short stories are simple in narration but with intrigue sense of expression in its content. The speakers said that his death is a huge loss to the literary community that can never be filled. They prayed to God to bless the family to bear this irreparable loss. The Punjabi short story writer Harbhajan Singh Sagar was born in the family of Lt. Chabeel Singh at Ichama, Budgam (Kashmir). Presently, he was residing in Preet Nagar Ext., Jammu. Author of three short story books, namely 'Yatri', 'Daire' and 'Bandh Darvaze Da Birtant' to his credit, his two short story books were awarded with the Best Book Award by J&K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages. His short stories have been published by a number of reputed Punjabi magazines of the country. He has also written hundreds of articles which were published in different leading magazines and books. Harbhajan Singh Sagar has left behind Nirmaljeet Kour (wife); and Amitoj Singh Sagar and Kapildeep Singh Sagar (sons).

CS chairs MDC on traffic management to advance mobility improvements in capital cities

■ STATE TIMES NEWS JAMMU: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo on Monday presided over a meeting of the Multi-Disciplinary Committee (MDC) on Traffic Management Systems for Jammu and Srinagar, to take a comprehensive look at the measures already undertaken and those proposed for easing congestion, strengthening road safety, and improving overall urban mobility in both cities. The meeting witnessed participation of senior administrative and police officials, including ACS, PWD, Principal Secretary, Home; Commissioner Secretary, H&UDD; Divisional Commissioner, Jammu/Kashmir; IGP; Traffic; Secretary, Transport; DIG, Traffic, Jammu/Kashmir; SSPs Traffic, Srinagar/Jammu; Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Jammu/Srinagar; VC, LCMA; Vice-Chairman, JDA/SDA, besides officers from other concerned departments. During the deliberations, the Chief Secretary underscored that Jammu and Srinagar; being the face of the UT and receiving a continuous flow of tourists and visitors, require swift and focused interventions to enhance commuter experience. He stressed the need for timely execution of traffic management plans and called for the early operationalisation of Intelligent Traffic Management Systems (ITMS) and Integrated Traffic Light Systems (ITLS). He directed the Divisional Commissioners to monitor the implementation rigorously. He also stressed on resolving other bottlenecks after incorporating feedback from citizens and stakeholders. Briefing the meeting on the current status of traffic improvement initiatives, the Divisional Commissioners outlined the steps taken in both cities, such as introducing diversions where required, setting up new roundabouts, installing traffic signals at strategic points, augmenting parking facilities, identifying no-parking stretches, earmarking dedicated bus stops, enforcing one-way traffic on congested routes and adjusting school and college timings.

Brig Usman Premier League 2025-26 begins FCC Bajabain, Lam Cricket Club win opening ties

■ STATE TIMES NEWS NOWSHERA: The second edition of the Brig Usman Premier League (BUPL) 2025-26 began with an action-packed opening day at the Nowshera Sports Stadium, showcasing fierce cricketing talent and nail-biting encounters. Organized by the Lam Battalion under the aegis of the Nowshera Brigade as part of Operation Sadbhavana, the tournament aims to promote sportsmanship, youth engagement, and communi-



ty interaction in the region. In the first match, FCC Bajabain faced Sikh Cricket Club. Winning the toss, FCC Bajabain elected to bowl first, restricting the Sikh Cricket Club to 118/4 in 15 overs. In response, FCC Bajabain chased down the target with 122/4 in 12.3 overs, winning by six wickets. Ranjeet Singh of FCC Bajabain was declared Man of the Match for his unbeaten 91 runs. The second match featured Rajput Cricket Club against Lam Cricket Club. Batting first, Rajput Cricket Club managed 104/8 in 15 overs. Lam Cricket Club successfully chased the total, scoring 105/7 in 14.3 overs, winning the match by three wickets. Irfan Khan earned the Man of the Match title for his all-round performance. The tournament attracted significant viewership, with 1,030 spectators attending in person, 2.1K YouTube views, 5.7K interactions on social media, and 1.67K on the Cricheers app. The second day of the BUPL 2025-26 promises more thrilling encounters, with teams aiming to maintain their winning momentum. Cricket enthusiasts are eagerly anticipating the next round of exciting matches at Nowshera Sports Stadium on 2 December 2025.