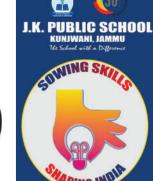


THE BOLD VOICE OF J&K Vol. 29 Issue 40 • Jammu • Saturday • February 10, 2024 • Pages 12 • ₹ 3.00



Rajya Sabha passes Examinations Bill, Uu Dr Jitendra dedicates it to youth of India

Regd. No. L-29/JK-346/22-24

Is not the Duty of President of India to preserve, protect & defend onstitution with in Basic Structure?

Shab-e-Miraj celebrated at JKPS Panjtirthi

Air surcharge 50 paisa for Leh

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



Modi Sarkar ki Guarantee

Active participation of women in nation's development

Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam gives women the right to 33% reservation in Lok Sabha and state legislative assemblies



Parliament clears J&K ST quota bill, 2 other amendment bills

STATE TIMES NEWS

DELHI: Parliament on Friday cleared a bill to add four groups including Paddari and Pahari in the list of Scheduled Tribes in Jammu and Kashmir.

The house approved the Constitution (Jammu and Kashmir) Scheduled Tribes Order (Amendment) Bill, 2024, which adds two other communities -- Gadda Brahmin and Koli -- to the Scheduled Tribes list.

The Upper House also cleared The Jammu and Kashmir Local Bodies Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2024 and the Constitution (Jammu and Kashmir) Scheduled Castes Order (Amendment) Bill, 2024 by voice vote.

The Lok Sabha had cleared

the bills earlier this week. The Jammu and Kashmir

Local Bodies (Amendment) Bill-2024 seeks to provide reservation to Other Backward Classes in panchayats and municipalities in Jammu and Kashmir and bring consistency in the local body laws of the Union territory with the provisions of the Constitution.

Currently, there is no provision for reservation of seats for OBCs in panchayats and municipalities in Jammu and Kashmir.

Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2024, adds Valmiki community as a synonym of Chura, Balmiki, Bhangi, and Mehtar communities in the list of Scheduled Castes in Jammu and Kashmir.

The bill seeks to amend the Constitution (Jammu and Kashmir) Scheduled Castes Order of 1956, which lists the castes deemed to be Scheduled Castes in Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh.

The three bills were taken simultaneously for discussion $\,$ and passage in the Upper House.

Replying to the discussion on the Constitution (Jammu and Kashmir) Scheduled Tribes Order (Amendment) Bill, 2024, Minister of Tribal Affairs Arjun Munda said the bill seeks to give justice to the communities who were demanding ST status for

"The scrapping of Article 370 has allowed us to bring

these laws," he noted.

Replying to the Jammu and Kashmir Local Bodies laws (Amendment) Bill, 2024, Minister of State for Home Affairs Nityananda Rai said the government has taken several steps for the welfare of the OBCs in the Union territory and this amendment is another step in that direction.

There are three main amendments to the bill. Firstly, the bill ensures reservation for OBCs in panchayats and municipal bodies in Jammu and Kashmir. Secondly, the state election commission will be in-charge of conducting elections to panchavats and municipalities, he said. Thirdly, the removal process of

India has nearly 97 Cr voters now, says EC

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The Election Commission on Friday said nearly 97 crore Indians will be eligible to vote in this vear's Lok Sabha elections.

It also said over two crore young electors in age group of 18 to 29 years have been added in the voters' list.

There has been a six per cent increase in registered voters from 2019, when the last Lok Sabha polls were held.

"The largest electorate in the world - 96.88 crore are registered to vote for the forthcoming General Elections in India," the EC

The gender ratio has increased from 940 in 2023 to 948 in 2024, the poll panel

The Commission has put special emphasis on purity and health of the

LG calls for increased awareness on wildlife conservation



LG Manoj Sinha chairing the 5th J&K UT Wildlife Board meeting in Jammu on Friday.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Friday directed the conauthorities to cerned increase the awareness for protection and conservation of valuable wildlife resources. Chairing the 5th meeting of Wildlife Board for the UT of J&K, at Civil Secretariat, the

Lieutenant Governor also instructed for organizing a series of promotional activities to increase the visibility of mega projects like Jambu Zoo at all the major public

The meeting was attended by Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Dheeraj Gupta, Additional Chief Secretary,

Department of Ecology and Environment; A. K. Choudhary, Special DG Crime; Shailendra Kumar, Principal Secretary, Agriculture Production Department; Roshan Jaggi, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF and

Sarvesh Rai, PCCF

Two terrorist hideouts unearthed in Sopore area

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Security forces have unearthed two terrorist hideouts in Sopore area of Baramulla district and recovered a cache of arms and ammunition, officials said on Friday.

Two suspected terror associates were also arrested during the search operation which yielded the arms and ammunition haul, the offi-

They said police, while investigating a terror-related case of last year in Sopore Police Station area developed actionable leads

Violence over Madrasa

demolition claims

6 lives in Haldwani

HALDWANI (U'KHAND):

Six rioters were killed in the violence that broke out over

the demolition of an illegally-

built madrasa here, officials

A curfew was imposed and

shoot-at-sight orders were

issued Thursday when vio-

lence erupted in a Haldwani

Six rioters were killed, SP

(City) Harbans Singh told

including a journalist, are

receiving treatment at three

different hospitals in the

Most of the 60 people admitted to different hospi-

tals in the town were dis-

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

charged after first aid. Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami, who visited

Haldwani to take

said on Friday.

PTI on Friday.

Seven injured

locality.

town.

STATE TIMES NEWS

A search operation was launched in the house of slain terrorist commander Abdul Qayoom Najar where security forces found a con-

"During the search, a secret concrete hideout was found inside the residential house of Abdul Rashid Najar from which arms and ammunition like IEDs, pistol, pistol magazine, live ammunition and other incriminating electronic items were recovered," the officials said.

crete hideout

They said Abdul Rashid Najar, a relative of the

PM announces Bharat Ratna for Charan Singh, Narasimha Rao, M S Swaminathan

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Former ministers Narasimha Rao and Charan Singh as well as Green Revolution pioneer M S Swaminathan will be conferred the Bharat Ratna, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced on Friday.

The government had earlier named former Bihar chief minister Karpoori Thakur a champion ofbackward empowerment, and L K Advani, a founding BJP member credited with charting the course of its rise



through the 1990s, for the honour

At five, one more than the four announced in 1999, this is the maximum number of Bharat Ratnas announced

Making the announcements country's highest civilian for Rao, whose liberalisation revolutionised the economy, Singh, a champion farmer causes, and Swaminathan, a globally renowned agricultural scien-

tist. Modi lauded their con-

tributions to the country. Singh, a Jat leader from

western Uttar Pradesh who was prime minister in 1979-80, was one of the pioneers of anti-Congress politics at a time the party was a hegemonic political force. Congress leader Rao, a Telugu, who was prime minister for a full five-year term during 1991-96,,is widely recognised for ushering in economic reforms.

It is our government's fortune that Singh is being honoured with the Bharat

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

India's growth rate constantly rising; our critics at an all-time low: Modi

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said India's time has come with its growth rate constantly rising and asserted that "our critics are at an alltime low".

Addressing the Times Groups' ET NOW Global Business Summit, Modi said the whole world's confidence in India is constantly increasing.

"In Dayos, which Kumbh Mela for business people, also there was great enthusiasm for India. Someone there said India is an unprecedented success

Can Preamble of Constitution be amended

story, someone said India's digital...infrastructure is touching new heights and someone said there is no place where India does not have influence," Modi said.

Today, there is discussion in every development expert group that India has transformed in the last 10 years, the prime minister said.

"These things show how much confidence the world has in India Such positive sentiment for India's capabilities was never there. Such a positive sentiment for India's success has probably

Preamble can be amended.

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Modi Govt honoured all sections of society: Chugh

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Bharatiya Janata Party's National General Secretary Tarun Chugh on Friday said that honouring former prime ministers Late Chaudhary Charan Singh and Late PV Narasimha Rao besides the great agricultural scientist Dr. M.S. Swaminathan with Bharat Ratna posthumously is a true tribute to the heroes who contributed to the development of the country.

In a statement, Chugh said that this decision is both historical and emotional. Chaudhary Charan Singh ji, a farmer's son and a farmers messiah, who reached the post of Prime Minister of the country from an ordinary family, dedicated his life to the welfare of farmers while PV Narasimha Rao ji's life was also dedicated to the welfare of the farmers. There is



also a true respect for the change in economic policies which Congress always opposed due to family issues but the Modi government has given befitting respect to his vision by giving him Bharat Ratna", he added.

"M S Swaminathan ji has been honored for the research he has done to improve agriculture in the country and for the benefit of farmers", he said.

Chugh said that the Modi government has always been honoring the heroes, who have contributed to the country during the last 10 years without any discrimination

He said that the Modi government has accepted almost all the recommendations of the Swami Nathan Commission 1949 intact. in the interest of the farmers and has taken many unprecedented decisions for the welfare of the farmers.

Taking jibe at the Congress rule, Chuch said that medals, awards and Sabha MP Subramanian honors were decided on the loyalty of a family, whereas the Modi government is honoring the true heroes of the country.

without altering the date, asks SC **STATE TIMES NEWS** DELHI: Supreme Court on Friday

questioned whether the Preamble of the Constitution could be amended while keeping the date of adoption, November 26,

A bench of Justices Sanjiv Khanna and Dipankar Datta posed the question to former Raiva Swamy and lawyer Vishnu Shankar Jain, who have sought deletion of the words

"Socialist" and "Secular" from the Preamble of the

"For the academic purpose.

can a Preamble that has the

date mentioned, be changed

without altering the date of

adoption. Otherwise, yes the

There is no problem with Constitution.

that." Justice Datta said. Swamy That's precisely the question in the mat-

Justice Datta further said, "this is perhaps the only Preamble I have seen which comes with a

date. We give this Constitution to us on so and so date originally these two words (Socialist and Secular)

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

HC directs Govt to treat all 5300 POJK DP families residing outside J&K at par with POJK DP families

JAMMU: In a landmark

judgment, Justice Rahul Bharti of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court on Friday observed that as the Government of India has now volunteered to revisit and reorient the entire position with respect to 5300 displaced families of PoJK of 1947 through their successors/heirs settled outside the erstwhile State of Jammu & Kashmir and that includes consideration of their respective entitlement to get and be paid the one time settlement amount as afforded to the 26,319 displaced families of

erstwhile State of Jammu & Kashmir.

The High Court, after hearing Senior Adv Sunil Sethi with battery of lawyers, disposed of all the writ petitions with a direction to the Govt. of India to treat the 5300 displaced families of PoJK of 1947 through their successors/heirs settled outside the erstwhile State of Jammu & Kashmir alike and equally with the 26,319 displaced families of PoJK of 1947 settled in the erstwhile State of Jammu & Kashmir and consequently work out one time settlement rehabiliadmissible to 26,319 displaced families of PoJK of 1947 settled in the erstwhile State of Jammu & Kashmir and further to accord same status and entitlements in their respective favour as held and enjoyed by the 26,319 displaced families of PoJK of 1947 settled in the erstwhile State of Jammu & Kashmir. Needful to be done at the earliest, and preferable

within six months next. Justice Rahul Bharti observed that commonality of the causes in the writ

Petitions is that while the

pain and deprivation of some

families of the then princely State of Jammu & Kashmir in the wake of 1947 invasion came to be assuaged in due course of time by the law of nature itself but remained unassuaged by the lawmakers and lawmen all along compounding said pain, suffering and deprivation to pass in inheritance even to next generations ultimately getting presented through the writ petitions before this court in the year 2017-2018 with an abiding trust that what article 14 of the Constitution of India holds and ensures in tryst to all cit-

5300 uprooted & displaced

izens of India, that is Bharat, will come in reality to their assuagement in the matter of getting much delayed and deferred attention and acknowledgment of being entitled not only to get their share of relief and rehabilitation packages extended by the Govt. of India and the Govt. of State of Jammu & Kashmir from time to time but also restoration of a long deprived status of being the very much permanent subjects of the State of Jammu & Kashmir

Finding that outside State of Jammu & Kashmir

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

No respite from cold wave in Kashmir, Pahalgam shivers at minus 10.3 deg C



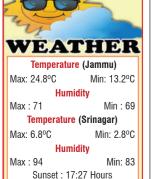
STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: There was no respite from cold wave conditions in Kashmir as the minimum temperatures stayed several degrees below freezing point at most places in

the valley on Friday, officials said here. The mercury in Gulmarg

skiing resort in north Kashmir fell to minus 9.0 degrees Celsius, the

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Sunrise: 07:23 Hours