

E BOLD VOICE OF J&K

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Air surcharge 50 paisa for Leh JKIIANS excel in Sambo

National Championship 2023

Former Minister, Members of Central Administrative Tribunal Jammu Bench call on Lt Governor

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

Enchanting Ecosystem: Gharana Wetlands blossom in global spotlight on World Wetland Day celebration

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



Modi Sarkar ki Guarantee

Metro network making urban connectivity easier

Metro connectivity increased from 5 cities in 2014 to 22 cities now

SEC reviews revised schedule

India certain to become 3rd largest economy in our third term: Modi

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said India is moving fast and will become the world's third-largest economy in the "third term" of his government.

Addressing industrialists at Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2024 here, the Prime Minister said the auto and automotive component industry will play a significant role in making India a global economic powerhouse.

Modi also announced that the government is working on a new scheme to develop



PM Narendra Modi speaking at the Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2024 on Friday

rest facilities on National Highways for truck and taxi

"Drivers are an important part of the mobility sector. They drive for long hours but

they do not have access to proper resting place...They do not get adequate time to take rest and sometimes this leads to road accidents," Modi said.

In the first phase, 1,000 modern buildings with amenities such as food stalls, clean drinking water, toilets, parking and rest places will be constructed, he added.

Modi said that it will give a boost to both the ease of living and ease of traveling for truck and taxi drivers, thereby improving their health and also help in

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Mortar, pistol seized from terrorist hideout in Poonch

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Security forces on Friday busted a terrorist hideout and seized a 51-mm mortar along with three shells and a pistol in Poonch district, officials said. The hideout was unearthed

during a joint search operation by police and Rashtriya Rifles in Sangla area of Surankote, the officials said. No arrests have been made

in connection with the recovery, which also included a pistol magazine and five rounds, they said.

The officials said the weapons were found packed in a bag and had gathered rust, suggesting that the hideout was not used by

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

for Panchayat Electoral Roll-2024 Extends period for claims/objection for one week

Asks officials to expedite the process to update Electoral Roll



State Election Commissioner, Braj Raj Sharma chairing a meeting at Jammu on Friday

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The State Election Commissioner (SEC), Braj Raj Sharma on Friday chaired a meeting of senior

officers to review the revised schedule for Panchayat Electoral Roll-2024 in the Union Territory of Jammu Director Information

STATE TIMES NEWS

Friday said the

consecration cere-

Temple in Ayodhya

civilisational histo-

ry of India and

ended the country's

500 years' pain.

DELHI:

Ram

NEW

President

Dhankhar

mony at

symbolised

Secretary RDD Shahid Iqbal Choudhary, Secretary SEC Susheel Kumar, Joint

MoU signed to start Khelo India Centre of Excellence in Ladakh

STATE TIMES NEWS

LEH: The Union Territory of Ladakh will soon have a Khelo India Centre of Excellence Memorandum

Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Sports Authority of India and Union Territory of Ladakh's sports department here on Friday.

It was the perfect gift for the UT on a day the Khelo India Winter Games 2024 opening ceremony was held at the Nawang Dorjay Stobdan Stadium. The UT

India logs 187 new

COVID-19 cases

NEW DELHI: India saw a

single-day rise of 187 cases

of COVID-19, while the

number of active cases of the

infection has declined to

1,381, the health ministry

Three deaths -- one each

Chhattisgarh and Uttar

Pradesh have been reported

in a span of 24 hours,

according to the ministry's

Nominations open for ACJ

awards for journalism

NEW DELHI: Nominations

have opened for this year's Asian College of Journalism

(ACJ) awards, Media

Development Foundation

(MDF), the trust that administers the top journal-

ism school, announced on

ACJ has invited journalists

and news organisations to

send in entries for in three

WEATHER

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

categories -- investigative

STATE TIMES NEWS

data updated at 8 am.

The number of daily

Maharashtra,

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

STATE TIMES NEWS

Govt to sell Bharat Rice at Rs 29/kg in retail mkt from next week

STATE TIMES NEWS

national event. Fifteen states and two public institutions are taking part in ice hockey and ice skating events over five days. The second part of the Winter Games will be held in Gulmarg, Jammu and Kashmir from February 21-The Khelo India Centre of

was hosting its maiden major

Excellence in Ladakh will provide a big boost to sportspersons in this challenging region. The

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

NEW DELHI: The Centre

on Friday said it will sell 'Bharat Rice' in the retail market at Rs 29 per kg from next week to give relief to the common man and has also directed traders to disclose rice/paddy stock, as part of its efforts to control prices that have risen by around 15 per cent in the last one year. In a press conference, Union Food Secretary Sanjeev Chopra exuded confidence that these two meas-

restrictions of exports will help in cooling down the

Seeking to dispel market rumours, he categorically said the government has no plans to lift restrictions on rice exports any time soon. The restrictions will continue until prices fall to a reasonable level.

"The first priority for the government as of now is to ensure that rice prices are brought down," Chopra said, while asserting that prices of all essential food items are

under control except rice. Prices of rice have risen by 14.5 per cent in retail and 15.5 per cent in the wholesale markets in the last one year,

he added. To control prices, Chopra said the Centre has decided to sell subsidised 'Bharat Rice' at Rs 29 per kg in the retail market through two cooperatives the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd (NAFED) and National Cooperative

India Ltd (NCCF) as well as retail chain Kendriya Bhandar. E-commerce platforms will

also be roped in to sell **Bharat Rice** He said Bharat Rice will be available in the market from

next week in 5kg and 10kg packs.

said the government has allocated 5 lakh tonnes of rice for sale in the retail market. The government is already

selling Bharat Atta at

In the first phase, Chopra

Dhankhar made remarks while addressing students at the 7th convocation ceremony of the

University here at the All Vice India Council for Technical

Ram temple consecration

ended 500 years of pain: VP

Jagdeep Education auditorium. "We had a celebratory mood in

the country on January 22 when there was consecration ceremony of Ram Lalla at

Ayodhya dham. What is significant about the event is that the pain of 500 years was undone on the

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

CS takes stock of Dal Lake conservation and beautification measures

ures along with the various

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo on Friday review of the measures taken so far for the beautification and cleansing of the famous Dal and Nigeen Lakes here.

The meeting was attended by Commissioner Secretary, H&UDD: VC, Conservation & Management Authority (LCMA) besides other concerned officers.

During this meeting the Chief Secretary took note of the measures taken so far for the cleaning, beautification and conservation of this fresh water body. He observed that the lake has



Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo chairing a meeting at Jammu.

significance ofinsignia in terms of the tourism value of Srinagar city and needs our prior attention and focus for devel-

He also emphasized upon

control the encroachment in the restricted area. He asked them to enhance the enforcement mechanism and ensure that no illegal structures are raised in the lake area. He called for showing zero

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

SHO attached over custodial death' in Jammu

Consumers' Federation of

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A station house officer of a police station was removed from his position, while two cops were placed under suspension following a suspect's death in custody here, police said on Friday.

The Jammu's District Magistrate has also been requested to initiate a magisterial inquiry into the incident, they said.

Sahil Saini, a resident of Nagri area of Kathua district, was arrested in a case related to theft on January 30 and was found dead under suspicious circumstances the next day

AICC Screening committee interacts with JKPCC leaders for seat sharing, LS candidates

Committee to submit recommendation to CEC for final decision

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: AICC Screening committee for J&K headed by Bhakta Charan Dass, former Union Minister along with Neeraj Dangi MP Rajya Sabha on Friday interacted with senior leaders regarding feedback about the seat sharing and probable candidates for Lok Sabha.

AICC Incharge J&K affairs Bharat Sinh Solanki along with AICC co- incharge Manoj Yadav also joined committee in the deliberations in which PCC President Vikar Rasool Wani,

Chand, Ex - PCC President Peerzada Mohd Saveed & other prominent leaders were

arrived here yesterday evening, held day long interactions with senior leadership of the party especially members of the Pradesh Election Committee (PEC) about the party prospects on each Lok Sabha seat and probable candidates for the Lok Sabha seats in J&K as well issues facing people.

They held close door meeting with the party leaders

interaction with individual leaders to take feedback and assessments on each seat as

The interactions continued till evening, before they left for Delhi by late evening flight, while Bharat Sinh Solanki will be holding series of meetings in the next three days here. The party was unanimous that any decision about the candidates and seat sharing shall be acceptable to them while giving feedback on each seat.

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Temperatures dip in Kashmir, coldest night recorded in 16 years in some towns

SRINAGAR: The minimum temperatures nose-dived on Thursday night at several places in Kashmir with some towns recording the coldest night in past 16 years, officials said here on Friday.

Gulmarg skiing resort in north Kashmir recorded a low of minus 12 degrees Celsius, a drop of more than four degrees compared to previous night's minus 7.6 degrees Celsius, the officials said.

Pahalgam tourist resort in south Kashmir, which serves as the base camp for the annual Amarnath yatra, recorded a low of minus 11.9 degrees Celsius, a drop of 7.8 degrees from the previous night.

Kokernag and Qazigund towns in south Kashmir both recorded a low of minus 9.4 degrees Celsius, the offi-

Srinagar, the summer capital of



Jammu and Kashmir, recorded a low of minus 0.3 degrees Celsius.

While IMD Srinagar officials release data for only six major weather stations in the Valley, a private weather forecaster claimed that Larnoo in Kokernag was the coldest recorded place in Kashmir where the mercury plunged to minus 17.1

Celsius Sonamarg resort on Srinagar-Leh highway which recorded a low of

"Records break as extreme cold wave hits south Kashmir, parts of Jammu region and Sonamarg. Larnoo in Kokernag coldest at -17.7 C, followed by Sonamarg at -15.1 C,

minus 15.1 degrees Celsius.

Jammu-Srinagar NH remains closed, 400 vehicles stranded

SRINAGAR: The arterial Jammu-Srinagar national highway remained closed for the second day on Friday due to landslip at various places, officials said. Authorities were trying to clear the landslip debris and restore the traffic on the road connecting Kashmir to rest of the country.

More than 400 vehicles are stranded at various places along the highway, the officials said.

The 270-km road was closed for traffic on Thursday following landslip at several places, including Sherbibi, Magerkote, Mehad Cafeteria and Dalwas, along the highway, the officials said.

private weather forecaster

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Bhalla, former Dy CM Tara including holding separate

well as probable candidates. The committee which

Bhakat Charan Dass

Champai Soren takes oath as Iharkhand CM; trust vote on Feb 5 tion government decided to

STATE TIMES NEWS RANCHI: After two days of

political uncertainty, JMM legislature party leader Champai Soren on Friday was sworn in as the chief minister of Jharkhand and the JMM-led coalition government will seek a vote of confidence on February 5.

Along with Champai Soren, senior Congress leader Alamgir Alam and RJD leader Satyanand Bhokta were sworn in as state ministers by Governor C P Radhakrishnan at the Raj Bhavan. Immediately after the swearing-in, 38 lawmakers of the ruling alliance were flown to Hyderabad to prevent any poaching attempt by the BJP in the run-up to the trust vote.

In its first cabinet meeting, the Champai Soren-led coaliseek a vote of trust on Monday. The governor gave 10 days to Champai Soren to prove a majority in the assembly, prompting the alliance to shift its MLAs from Jharkhand, a legislator A senior leader of the coali-

tion said:"The decision to shift the legislators to Hyderabad, the capital of Congress-ruled Telangana, was taken considering that the opposition BJP may make attempts to poach them.'

Congress leader Banna Gupta whose party is a constituent of the ruling alliance said," As many as 38 MLAs flew to Hyderabad. Several others stayed back.

The MLAs arrived at ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

