Dr Jitendra speaks in LS about women heading UU prestigious projects Aditya, Chandrayaan

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

IGNOU Regional Centre Jammu gets its own state of the art campus

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

Air surcharge 50 paisa for Leh JKPS Panjtirthi students shine in **IDPS Checkmate Chess Fest**



Construction of National Highways at an unprecedented pace

In last 10 years, National Highway network expanded from 91 thousand kms to 1 lakh 46 thousand kms

Hamara Sankalp Viksit Bharat





"Achievements of KP community fill my heart with pride"

Massive infra development post 2019 brought sports revolution in J&K: LG

'Avail limitless opportunities in diverse sectors, fulfill goal of Viksit Bharat'



LG Manoj Sinha addressing gathering after laying foundation of Synthetic Football Turf at Jagti on Wednesday.

STATE TIMES NEWS

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday highlighted the efforts of the administration to develop the massive infrastructure that has brought

sports revolution in J&K, post 2019.

"We have completed 702 sports projects. Multipurpose indoor sports halls have been constructed in almost every district. Playfields have been

developed in every panchayat", he observed after laying the foundation stone of Synthetic Football Turf at Jagti Camp, Nagrota.

The Lt Governor congratulated the young sportspersons and football enthusiasts on the occasion.

The Synthetic Football Turf to be developed at a cost of Rs 5.75 crore, will include G+1 pavilion with a covered area having seating capacity of about 600 spectators, change rooms and other amenities.

"The achievements of Kashmiri Pandit community fill my heart with pride. I dedicate this vital sports project at Jagti to the Youth of this Community and to their immense contribution to nation-building," the Lt Governor said.

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the government is

Srinagar, another injured LG strongly condemns heinous terror attack on two civilians



STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: In the first targeted killing of the year, terrorists on Wednesday shot dead a worker from Punjab while another sustained injuries in Habba Kadal area of the city, officials said here. Amritpal Singh, a resident

of Amritsar, was shot by the terrorists from point blank

range and Shalla Kadal locality in Habba Kadal around 7 pm, the officials said.

They said Singh died on the spot while another non-local worker identified as Rohit, aged 25, sustained injuries in the incident.

Rohit also hails from Amritsar. He was hit by the

No efforts will be spared to bring perpetrators to justice: Sinha

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has strongly condemned the heinous terror attack on two civilians in

He extended his heartfelt condolences to the family of the civilian martyred in the attack and prayed for the speedy recovery of the injured.

In a tweet, the Lt Governor said: "I am deeply shocked and saddened by the heinous terror attack in Srinagar on Amritpal & Rohit from Amritsar. I condemn in strongest terms this brutal act, which has snuffed out an innocent life In this hour of grief, I convey my heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family. Praying for the speedy recovery of the injured Rohit. A team of doctors is doing their best to take care of him. No efforts will be spared to bring the perpetrators to justice. Directed the Civil & Police administration to ensure all assistance to the families."

Traffic restored on Jammu-Srinagar

NH after suspension for repair work

bullets in the abdomen and is undergoing treatment at SMHS hospital here.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

In a post on X, Kashmir Zone Police said, "Terrorists ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Talks within INDIA bloc only on 3 LS seats held by BJP in J&K, Ladakh: Omar

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: There will be talks within the Congress-led INDIA bloc only on three parliamentary seats which were won by the BJP in the last elections from Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, National Conference vice president Omar Abdullah said on Wednesday.

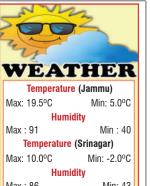
"There has been no talk on seat-sharing (within the INDIA alliance) so far. Congress is ready for the talks and they want us to talk to them. In the coming days, there will be a discussion, especially about the seats (Jammu,

Pakistanis to vote today; 25 killed in Balochistan blasts

ISLAMABAD: Pakistanis will vote on Thursday to elect a new government to rule the cash-strapped country amid a spree of violence including deadly blasts on the eve of elections, killing 25 in Baluchistan, in which the front-runner former prime minister Nawaz Sharif is believed to have the backing of the powerful military.

With former prime minister Imran Khan in jail, Sharif's Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) is tipped to emerge as the single largest party in the elec-

Khan's Pakistan Tehreeke-Insaf (PTI) candidates are contesting the polls independently after the Supreme Court upheld the decision of the election commission



Udhampur and Ladakh) which are with the BJP," Omar told reporters here.

Besides the Congress and the National Conference (NC) which had won all the three parliamentary seats from Kashmir Srinagar, Baramulla and Anantnag in 2019elections. Mehbooba Mufti-led Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) is also a part of the INDIA bloc from Jammu and Kashmir. Omar said NC has also fought elections from Jammu, Udhampur and Ladakh constituencies in the

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

ED arrests Bharat Papers Director in money-laundering case

STATE TIMES NEWS JAMMU: Directorate of Enforcement (ED) has rrested Anil Kumar Aggarwal, Director of M/s Bharat Papers Limited on Tuesday under the provisions of Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002 in a bank loan fraud amounting to approx. Rs 200 Crore. Anil Kumar Aggarwal was produced before the Special PMLACourt, Jammu on Wednesday. The Court has granted custody to ED till February 13, 2024.

The ED initiated investigation on the basis of FIR regis-

tered by CBI against M/s. Bharat Papers Limited and Rajinder its Directors, Kumar Aggarwal, Parveen Kumar Aggarwal, Kumar and Baljinder Kumar Aggarwal. The FIR alleged that M/s Bharat Papers Limited and its directors have perpetrated bank loan fraud amounting to approximately Rs. 200 Crore with consortium of banks with State Bank of India as lead bank, J & K Bank, PNB and Karur Vysya Bank being the other banks.

ED investigation revealed that Anil Kumar Aggarwal, in

his capacity as one of the main Director of M/s Bharat Papers Limited, since its incorporation in 2006, has committed the offence of money laundering by siphoning off a part of the loan through bogus entities and related entities, illegal sale of machinery by raising fake scrap(machinery) out of

books to unrelated entities and adjusting sundry debtors in the books of holding company. Earlier, the ED had conducted search operations on January 31,2024 and February 05, 2024 at multi-

No respite from cold wave in Kashmir,

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: People in

Kashmir got no respite from the intense cold wave conditions on Wednesday, as the temperatures minimum

annual Amarnath yatra, recorded a low of minus 10.8 degrees Celsius and was the coldest recorded place in the valley last night, said an official from the weather

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

ple locations spread over Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh including office/residential premises related to the present/past directors of M/s Bharat Limited, M/s Papers International Traders and M/s Choudhary Industrial Projects Pvt. Ltd which resulted in seizure of Indian Currency of more than Rs. 34 lakhs, around 600 grams Gold and various incriminating documents in the form of property documents, hard disk, digital device and digital evidence. Further investigation is under progress.

JAMMU: The vehicular traffic on the Jammu-Srinagar national highway was restored on Wednesday after being suspended for a day to

undertake repair work at several places in Ramban district, officials said. Repairs were necessitated after snowfall and heavy

rains last Thursday made the arterial road severely damaged at several places between Nashri and Banihal, the officials said. "Traffic has been restored

this morning. However, single-way traffic is playing at Dalwas area in Ramban dis-

trict," a traffic official said, adding that there is slow movement of traffic at Dalwas and T2 tunnel on the highway at the moment.

"Commuters are advised to follow lane discipline. Overtaking will lead to congestion for all," he said. Over 300 vehicles, which

were stranded at several places enroute, have been cleared.

On Tues movers were pressed into the service by the agencies concerned at the affected portions, including Kishtwari Pather, Sher Bibi,

History Scripted: UCC bill passed in Uttarakhand Assembly

STATE TIMES NEWS

DEHRADUN: Uttarakhand Assembly on Wednesday passed the Uniform Civil Code bill, which may serve as template for other BJP-run states to enact similar legislation.

The UCC bill was passed by voice vote after a two-day debate. The opposition's proposal for referring the draft legislation to a select committee of the House on the ground that they did not get enough time to study its provisions was rejected.

The bill will now be sent to

narratives that seek to divide

Replying to the debate on

the Motion of Thanks on the

President's Address in Rajya

Sabha, the prime minister

again expressed confidence of

winning a third consecutive

term and outlined his vision

for the next five years, saying

the Modi 3.0 government will

put all its might in making

India a developed nation.

the nation

President Droupadi Murmu for her assent after which it will become a law. BJP-ruled states like Gujarat and Assam appear keen to model their UCCs on the bill passed the Uttarakhand

Assembly. Uttarakhand will now become the first state after Independence to get a common law on marriage, divorce, land, property and inheritance for all citizens, irrespective of their religion.

During the discussion, Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami said it is not an

ordinary legislation. "With its passage, a small state like Uttarakhand will

script history," he said. He said the UCC will create equal laws for men and women across all faiths and will help create a non-partisan and non-discriminatory society. It will especially protect the rights of women and put an end to their exploita-

The hill state's small tribal community is exempted from the proposed law, which also mandates registration ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

tion, Dhami said.

several places sub-zero

staved several degrees below freezing point at most places in the valley. Pahalgam tourist resort in south Kashmir, which serves as the base camp for the

Cong outdated, should stop narratives to divide country: Modi

PM scripted historic chapter for J&K by granting ST status to Paharis: Chugh

SRINAGAR: BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh, who is also party incharge of Jammu and Kashmir, on Wednesday described the grant of Scheduled Tribe (ST) status to Paharis as a watershed moment for the Union Territory.

In a statement, Chugh hailed Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his pioneering initiative as the Constitution (Jammu and Kashmir) Scheduled Tribes Order (Amendment) Bill.

ly states that the first prime

minister was against reserva-

tion of any kind, especially in

jobs, as it adversely affected

the functioning of the gov-

"The Congress which never

gave complete reservation to

OBCs, which never gave

reservation to the poor of the

general category, which did

not consider Baba Saheb

worthy of Bharat Ratna,

kept giving Bharat Ratna

only to its family. They are

now preaching to us," he

ernment.



BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh being honoured at Srinagar.

2024 was passed in the Lok The historic Bill aims at

empowering Pahari Ethnic Group, Padari Tribes,

bench headed by Chief

Justice DY Chandrachud

observed

while

Castes of SCs, STs may not be homogenous in terms of social, economic status: SC

seven-judge

Citing a letter written by **STATE TIMES NEWS** Jawaharlal Nehru to chief ministers, Modi said it clear-

Supreme Court, examining whether states can sub-classi-

fy scheduled castes and scheduled grant of quota inside quota, on Wednesday

said all SCs and STs may not be homogenous in terms of their sociological, economic, education and social status.

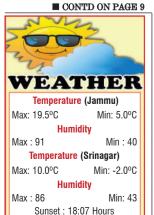
"They (SCs and STs) may be a class for a certain purpose. But, they may not be a class for all the purposes," a

hearing as many petitions issue. The top court is hearing references to

tion bench judgement of 2004 in the case of 'EV Chinnaiah vs. State of Andhra Pradesh' in which it was held that SCs and

revisit a five-judge constitu-

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9



Sunrise: 07:21 Hours

STATE TIMES NEWS "The third term of our gov-NEW DELHI: Prime ernment is not far away.

Minister Narendra Modi on Some people call it Modi 3.0. Wednesday stepped up his Modi 3.0 will put its all might attack on the Congress, to strengthen the foundation alleging that the opposition of 'Viksit Bharat'," the prime party is "outdated" and "outminister said. of-warranty" and is creating In his 90-minute speech,

considered his last in Parliament before Lok Sabha polls, Modi targeted the Congress saying there is strength in Lok Sabha.

public anger against the party because of its deeds and pointed to its dwindled "The Congress has been against Dalits, backwards,

tribals and had it not been

for Babasaheb Ambedkar,

they would not have got any

"Confident of third term" NEW DELHI: Confident of securing a massive majority in the upcoming Lok Sabha elections, Prime Minister Narendra



Modi on Wednesday out lined his vision for his next five-year term saying the Modi 3.0 government will put all its might to strengthen the foundation of 'Viksit Bharat' or a developed nation. Coming down heavily or

previous Congress-led governments of mismanage ment of the economy, Modi told Rajya Sabha his government in the past 10 years has worked for development of all sec tions of the society. He said India ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

where he left off in his reply reservation," the prime minin Lok Sabha on Monday. ister said, picking up from

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9