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LG exhorts youth to carry forward values of ancient civilization, build stronger J&K

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Vaishno Devi Shrine Board announces helicopter quota for senior citizens, specially-abled pilgrims

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National Games: 3 in Wushu reach finals

Website : [www.statetimes.in](http://www.statetimes.in), Email: [statetimes1@gmail.com](mailto:statetimes1@gmail.com)

## Inaugurates 32nd Int'l Conference of Indian Association of Palliative Care at AIIMS Jammu LG asks private sector to set up Palliative care centres in remote areas

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Friday inaugurated the 32nd International Conference of the Indian Association of Palliative Care (IAPC), at AIIMS Jammu.

More than 800 national and international delegates will join deliberations to foster advancements and innovations in palliative care for quality of life for patients diagnosed with terminal illness. The three-day conference is being organised by IAPC J&K Chapter and AIIMS, Jammu.

In his keynote address, the Lieutenant Governor exhorted the experts to keep Standard Operating Procedures (SoPs) up to date and be more sensitive towards the needs of individuals diagnosed with life-threatening disease, well-being of families, alleviate pain and suffering and provide spiritual support.

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LG Manoj Sinha during the inaugural ceremony of 32nd International Conference of Indian Association of Palliative Care at AIIMS Jammu on Friday.

The Lieutenant Governor asked the private sector to work with the administration to set up Palliative care centres in backward and remote areas.

"In J&K, the administration in 2022 had set up 10-bed state-of-the-art Palliative and Geriatric Care Wards in all the districts. We have tried to bridge urban-rural divide to certain extent. Our aim is to deliver medical and psychological support at

▶▶ **LG exhorts experts to keep SoPs up to date and be more sensitive towards needs of individuals diagnosed with life-threatening disease, well-being of families, alleviate pain and suffering and provide spiritual support**

▶▶ **In Palliative care, health ecosystem and healthcare professionals have moral responsibility to reduce pain and suffering of patients. Apart from adopting innovative approach to pain management health care professionals at all levels should be given training for continuity in the care of such patients**

▶▶ **All experts and Indian Association of Palliative Care should work together to**

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## Nirmala Sitharaman to present Budget today

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Friday gave final touches to the first full Budget of Modi government's third term that is expected to balance the aspiration of the middle class for tax cut and needs of the economy to boost growth.

Sitharaman will on February 1 present a record eighth consecutive Budget that is expected to contain measures to shore up weakening economic growth and ease the burden on the middle class struggling with high prices and stagnant wage growth while being fiscally prudent.

"Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs Smt. @nsitharaman interacts with the Secretaries and the senior officials involved in the Budget making process @FinMinIndia while giving final touches to the Union Budget 2025-26 at her office in North Block, in New Delhi, today," the

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## Conducive environment for development in J&K after Art 370 abrogation: Prez Murmu

Kashmir linked to Kanyakumari through Railway line-a big achievement

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: President

Droupadi Murmu on Friday said the people of Jammu and Kashmir deserve commendation as both assembly and Lok Sabha elections were held peacefully in the union territory after a conducive environment was created following the abrogation of Article 370.

Addressing a joint sitting of Parliament at the beginning of the Budget session, Murmu also said that the final phase of eliminating Left-wing Extremism has begun and due to the government's efforts, the number of districts affected by the menace has reduced from 126 to 38 today.

"After the abrogation of Article 370, there is a con-

ducive environment for the development in Jammu and



Kashmir. Both the Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabha elections were conducted in a peaceful manner in Jammu and Kashmir. The people of Jammu and Kashmir deserve commendation for this achievement," she said.

The President said the pace of work has tripled in the third term of her government which has worked with

strong determination to lift the economy out of the state of "policy paralysis".

She said the nation was witnessing major decisions and policies being implemented at an extraordinary speed, with the highest priority given to the poor, the middle class, the youth, women, and farmers.

"My government is infusing new energy through unprecedented achievements in this Amrit Kaal of India's development journey.

The pace of work has tripled in this third term," she said in her 60-minute speech, peppered with occasional protests from the opposition benches.

In an address to the two Houses at the beginning of the first session of Parliament every year, the president outlines the

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## Three XEns, 3 AEEs, five AEs transferred in RD&PR Deptt

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The government on Friday transferred three Executive Engineers (XEns), three Assistant Executive Engineers (AEEs) and five Assistant Engineers (AEs) in Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj.

According to the order issued by Mohammad Aijaz, Secretary, Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Abdul Rashid Mir, I/c Executive Engineer (XEn) (REW), Kishtwar has been posted as I/c XEn (REW), Baramulla; Sajjad Ali Bhat, I/c XEn (REW), Budgam as I/c XEn (REW), Kishtwar; Shafait Hussain, I/c XEn (REW), presently attached in the

office of Director Rural Development, Kashmir has been posted as I/c XEn (REW), Budgam.

Saifullah Dar, I/c Assistant Executive Engineer (AEE) (REW), Sub-Division Shahbad with addl. Charge of Achabal, Anantnag has been posted to Sub-Division, Shopian; Ghulam Hassan Wagay, I/c AEE (REW) Sub-Division Tral, Pulwama, to Sub-Division Shahbad with addl. Charge of Achabal, Anantnag; Mohd Athar, I/c AEE (REW) Sub-Division, Pulwama shall hold the addl. Charge of Sub-Division Tral, Pulwama.

Mohd Yousaf Ganai, I/c Assistant Engineer (AE) (REW) Block

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## Gangster opens fire at naka party, injured in police retaliation at Miran Sahib

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A gangster booked in 11 FIRs was injured when he was attempting to flee from police naka after opening fire on police men at Kothey Mian Pathe area under the jurisdiction of Miran Sahib police Station. Police has apprehended him along with his accomplice, with unlicensed pistol. A sharp edged weapon and motor bike has been seized from his possession.

Police said, on an information that gangster Paranjit Singh alias Jungi, son of Devi Dass, resident of Draptey, R S Pura along with his accomplice is wandering in Miran Sahib area. A police party immediately rushed to the spot and on suspecting police action Jungi opened fired upon police party and in retaliation, police



Miran Sahib police personnel gathering evidences at firing site.

party also fired and during firing he received a bullet injury on his leg and got injured. Later on, he was shifted to GMC hospital Jammu for treatment.

Police also arrested his accomplice identified as Arjun Kumar alias Billu, son of Sham Lal, resident of Akhmoor at present Salehar

Kothey Arnia, Jammu. Police has taken cognizance of the incident and FIR under relevant sections of law has been registered at Police Station Miran Sahib and further investigation started.

Five cases registered against Arjun Kumar alias Billa, son of Sham Lal, resident of Kalayana, Arnia include

▶▶ **Two notorious gangsters arrested with pistol, ammunition**

▶▶ **11 FIRs already registered against Jungi while 5 registered against Billu**

FIR15/2023

U/S 452/323/504/506 IPC, 4/25 A.Act. of PS Arnia; FIR 80/2016 U/S 341/323/34 RPC, 4/25 A.Act. PS R.S.Pura; FIR 67/2018 U/S 307/341/323/147/149 RPC, 4/25 A.Act. PS R.S.Pura; FIR.140/2017 U/S 3/25, 4/25 A.Act.PS Miran Sahib and FIR167/2020 U/S 323/451/147/34 IPC, 4/25 A.Act. PS Miran Sahib

11 cases registered against gangster Paranjit Singh alias Jungi include FIRs 78/2011; 307/326/ 148/149 RPC, 4/25 A. Act; Miran Sahib; FIR 174/2014, 307/323/ 147/149/

120-B RPC 4/25 A Act R.S. Pura; 43/2015, 307/147/ 148/149 RPC 4/25 A Act, R.S. Pura; 38/2016, 364/342/ 147/148/ 149 RPC 4/25 A Act R.S. Pura; 154/2017, 307 RPC 3/25, 4/25 A Act Miran Sahib; 10/2018 3/25 A. Act R.S. Pura; 58/20228/21/22/ 29 NDPS Act, 4/25 A. Act Miran Sahib; 64/2023 458/323/ 504/506 IPC, 4/25 Arms Act R.S Pura; 87/2023, 458/323/ 382/IPC 4/25 Arms Act R.S. Pura; 9 8/2023, 323/34 IPC, 4/25 A. Act R.S. Pura and 229/2024 109/ 3(5) BNS, 3/4/25 A. Act Satwari.

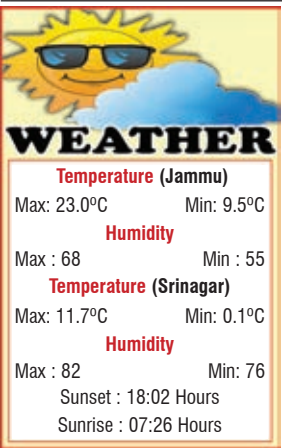
## Three suspected OWGs detained under PSA

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: Three suspected Over Ground Workers (OWGs) were detained under the stringent Public Safety Act in Kathua district on Friday, police said.

Md Rafiq of Ghar Malti, Ravinder Kumar alias Shamu of Dadwara, and Amrik Chand alias Amrku of Dharamkot are hardcore criminals and OWGs involved in various illegal activities during the past few years and named in various cases registered at Billawar police station, a police spokesperson said. He said the trio was detained under the Public Safety Act on the orders of the district magistrate after police prepared their dossiers for detention to curtail their illegal activities.

Accordingly, the warrants for their detention were executed and they have been lodged in separate district jails in Jammu, Rajouri and Udhampur; the spokesperson said.



**WEATHER**

**Temperature (Jammu)**  
Max: 23.0°C Min: 9.5°C

**Humidity**  
Max: 68 Min: 55

**Temperature (Srinagar)**  
Max: 11.7°C Min: 0.1°C

**Humidity**  
Max: 82 Min: 76

Sunset : 18:02 Hours  
Sunrise : 07:26 Hours

## CAT directs to appoint Dr Rajive Gupta as Lecturer Surgery at GMC Jammu with effect from 2009

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A Bench of Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) Jammu comprising Rajinder Singh Dogra Member (J) and Raj Mohan Johri Member (A), in a significant ruling, has directed the creation of a supernumerary post for Dr. Rajive Gupta, who challenged the selection process for the position of Lecturer in Surgery at Government Medical College, Jammu in 2009.

Dr. Gupta, represented by Senior Advocate Gagan Basotra and Navdeep Kour, had applied for the post of

Lecturer in Surgery in 2009 and contested the selection process, claiming that Dr. Rahul Gupta was appointed despite allegedly lacking the necessary experience and qualifications.

Dr. Gupta argued that the selection process was flawed, combining two distinct recruitment services and granting undue marks to Dr. Rahul Gupta, who had less experience compared to other candidates.

Dr. Gupta argued that the selection procedure was flawed, claiming that it combined the recruitment process for two distinct serv-

ices and awarded undue marks to Dr. Rahul Gupta, who had less experience and fewer qualifications compared to other candidates.

The Tribunal, while acknowledging the merits of Dr. Gupta's claims, refrained from directly overturning Dr. Rahul Gupta's appointment due to his 15 years of service in the position. The Tribunal noted that Dr. Rahul Gupta, now over 50 years old, had likely passed the age limit for other government employment, making it unfair to disturb his current position.

To balance the equities,

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## Naushad gets addl charge of Chairman, J&K Sales Tax Appellate Tribunal

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh assigned additional charge to Naushad Ahmad Khan.

"In view of the superannuation of Mohammad Rafiq Chak, Chairman, J&K Sales Tax Appellate Tribunal, on January 31, 2025, Naushad Ahmad Khan, One Man Forest Authority shall hold the additional charge of the aforesaid Tribunal with effect from January 1, 2025, till further orders," reads an order issued by Shahzad Azeem, Registrar General, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.

## Crime Branch constitutes SIT to investigate Pakistanis settled in J&K illegally

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Crime Branch wing of Jammu and Kashmir Police has taken major action against Pakistani citizens living illegally in Jammu division for decades. These Pakistan residents have managed all documents from Aadhaar card to domicile with fake evidences.

Based on a tip-off, the Special Crime Wing has conducted simultaneous raids at 15 places in Jammu, Poonch, Rajouri and Kathua districts.

No arrests have been made in this regard so far. According to the Crime Branch, some people from Pakistan came to India on travel documents after seventies and started living here illegally.

▶▶ **Documents seized, some even in government jobs on fake documents.**

▶▶ **Many came to India from Pakistan on travel documents and started living here.**

According to sources, to ensure that no one gets to know about their being Pakistani citizens, they settled in remote areas of the Jammu division. After this, everyone settled in their respective places and started working and even many acquired properties also.

The Crime Branch had received a complaint that these people from Pakistan have forged the identity

cards issued by the Indian government to its citizens, which include Aadhaar card, domicile certificate, ration cards and other government identity cards. And they have also secured government jobs on the basis of fake documents.

Crime Branch officials investigated and collected evidence and registered a case under various sections of the foreigners act to investigate the case

thoroughly.

IGP Crime Branch Dr Sunil Gupta has formed a Special Investigation Team (SIT), which included a DSP, six inspectors, a sub-inspector and an Assistant Sub-Inspector, besides technical staff for their assistance.

Talking to STATE TIMES, IGP CB Dr. Sunil Gupta said, "We are conducting investigation in this case. We are collecting evidences and it will take some time to conduct the probe."

Sources said, the reason behind why the Pakistani citizens did not go back is also being investigated. How many people had come to meet their relatives here on travel documents at that time is also a matter of investigation.

## PM hints at measures for women, poor, middle class "First time since 2014, no attempt from abroad to stoke trouble before Parl session"

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday hinted at new initiatives for the poor and middle class as well as women as he laid out his government's vision a day before the Union Budget is presented in Parliament.

Modi began his customary pre-session remarks to the media by invoking Lakshmi, the goddess associated with wealth and prosperity, and said he prayed for special blessings for the poor and middle class.

Stressing the importance of ensuring equal rights for women free from religious



and sectarian differences, he asserted that significant decisions towards the goal will be taken during the Budget Session, which started on Friday.

He emphasised the importance of establishing the dignity of women, who have

been at the centre of the ruling BJP's welfare measures.

Modi said several historic bills and proposals will be discussed in this session, leading to laws that will strengthen the nation. The Prime Minister also said

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## Two infiltrating LeT terrorists shot dead along LoC

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH: Two heavily armed terrorists affiliated with Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) were killed in a gunfight as Army troops scuttled a major infiltration attempt along the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district, officials said on Friday.

The incident took place in the Khari Karmara area of the Poonch district on Thursday and a massive search operation was underway when the last reports were received this afternoon, they said.

"Terrorist movement was detected last night at the Line of Control in the

Poonch sector. Alert troops swiftly engaged the infiltrating terrorists, triggering an intense and heavy firefight," the Army's Jammu-based White Knight Corps said in a post on X.

The Army said the operation continued through the night, leading to the neutralization of two terrorists. The search of the area thus far has resulted in the recovery of a number of weapons and war-like stores, it said.

General Officer Commanding-in-chief of Udhampur-based Northern Command Lt Gen M V Sachindra Kumar complimented the White

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