

THE BOLD VOICE OF J&K Vol. 30 Issue 54 • Jammu • Monday • February 24, 2025 • Pages 12+4=16 • ₹ 5.00

Regd. No. L-29/JK-346/2025-27 Dr Jitendra chairs BJP MLAs meeting, emphasises well studied interventions in Assembly

Panjvaktra Mahadev Mandir to host grand three-day Maha Shivratri Mahotsav 2025

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

Air surcharge 50 paisa for Leh 'King Kohli' hits 51st ODI ton as India all but seal CT semifinal slot with thumping win over Pakistan

Those with slave mentality mock India's religious beliefs with foreign backing: Modi

CHATTARPUR Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday slammed a section of leaders over their critical remarks on Maha Kumbh, saying those with "slave mentality" keep attacking the country's religious and cultural traditions with the backing of foreign powers.

Modi termed the ongoing Maha Kumbh in Prayagraj as the "Maha Kumbh of Unity" after laying the foundation stone for Shree Bageshwar Medical Sciences And Research Institute, which will include a cancer hospital, at Chhatarpur in Madhya Pradesh.

Bageshwar Dham is a prominent religious site associated with Lord Hanuman, frequented by thousands of

"These days we see that there is a group of leaders who mock and ridicule our religion. They are bent upon breaking the unit and are engaged in dividing people.



"Many times, foreign powers too are seen trying to weaken the country and religion by supporting these people," Modi said.

Modi's remarks come amid a row over West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee dubbing Maha Kumbh as Mrityu

Kumbh citing mismanage-

ment and incidents of stam-

pede. She had also accused

the authorities of suppress-

ing the death toll. Modi said the haters of the Hindu faith have been living in different disguises for cen-

"These people with slave mentality attack our beliefs, traditions. These people abuse our festivals, traditions, and beliefs," he said.

Modi further said the agenda of this section was to break the society and unity of the country.

"They have the audacity of throwing slush at our religion and culture which is intrinsically progressive," he added.

Modi underlined the religious significance of Maha Kumbh in Prayagraj which is taking place after 144 years.

He praised 'safai karmis' (sanitation workers) and police personnel for doing a great job in making the Maha Kumbh a successful

"This is the great Kumbh of unity where thousands of doctors and volunteers work with dedication and the spirit of service. People visiting the great Kumbh of unity appreciate these efforts," he

Modi also hailed services rendered by ophthalmologists to the needy people at

tion attended by crores.

He said for ages, Hindu mutts, dhaams and temples have been serving as the centres of worship and belief and also for science and research.

"Hindu seers imparted the knowledge of yoga and science. The world is following Yoga. Yoga has made the country proud and making our flag fly high," he said.

The PM said he always worked with the principle of 'sabka saath, sabka vikaas' and has added the vow of 'sabka ilaaj and sabko aaro-

Highlighting efforts made by his government in fighting cancer, Modi said cancer daycare centres will be opened in all districts of the country in the next three years.

He pointed to Budgetary announcements aimed at fighting cancer and the decision to make cancer medicines cheaper.

Half of world's Sanatan Dharm followers taken

holy dip at Maha Kumbh: Adityanath

"Modi is your son, and I will continue to serve you all," ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

The Chief Minister also said a helicopter would be



Champions Trophy: Virat Kohli's century shot leads India's tremendous victory over Pakistan.

Govt in talks with private investors to boost skiing infra at Gulmarg: Omar

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Sunday said the government is in talks with some private investors to enhance the infrastructure at the famous skiing destination of Gulmarg.

available throughout the year

gratitude towards their

seers, the 'Rishi' tradition of

India, their 'Dev' tradition

in Gulmarg for heli-skiing and safari. "We are in talks with some private investors who are ready to create more skiing

> good proposal which would create new infrastructure, we will work on it,"

infrastructure in Gulmarg.

Talks are on and if there is a

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9 Woman injured

by gunfire

STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: A 21-year-old woman was seriously injured by gunfire at her residence in Rajouri district on Sunday, officials said. Shivani, the daughter of Girdari Lal, was fiddling with a licensed 12bore gun at her Sunderbani residence when it went off, causing injuries to her, they said. The officials said the woman was given first aid locally and later referred to GMC Jammu, for specialized treatment. The police have registered a case and further off accidentally or the victim

CBSE's proposed global curriculum to be available for other international schools

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The global curriculum being prepared by CBSE for its foreign schools can also be offered by other international schools as well as those affiliated to the board in India, according to officials

The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) is in process of firming up plans to introduce the curriculum from 2026-27 academic session and a meeting has been called this week to discuss further before a draft is rolled out in public

week, Last Education Minister had

Cattle smuggler detained under PSA

against criminals, Samba

Police on Sunday booked a

notorious criminal under the

Jammu & Kashmir Public

Safety Act (PSA) and lodged

him in District Jail Kathua.

The notorious criminal

namely Jaqoob Ali alias

Juka son of Alam Din resi-

dent of Madhera tehsil and

district Samba has been

booked under PSA after

obtaining formal detention

order from the District

Magistrate Samba. The

booked criminal has been

The said criminal is involved

in multiple cases registered

against him at Police Station Samba. The repeated crimi-

nal activities of the said notorious criminal have posed a serious threat to

public peace and tranquility

In order to refrain the sub-

ject from indulging in crimi-

nal activities, a dossier under

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Min: 31

PSA was recommended

lodged in

subsequently

in the region.

Max: 16.6°C

Max: 80

District Jail Kathua.

STATE TIMES NEWS SAMBA: Acting tough

chaired a meeting where CBSE was directed to prepare a detailed action plan with modalities of establishing and implementing the global curriculum.

"The global curriculum is part of a broader reform plan aligned with the new National Education Policy (NEP) which aims to provide students with greater flexibility and a globally competitive learning experience. The curriculum will be offered by CBSE's foreign schools from 2026-27 academic session.

"International schools which are currently affiliated Union to other boards will also

STATE TIMES NEWS AGRA/MAHAKUMBH

NAGAR: Uttar Pradesh Minister Chief Adityanath on Sunday said 62 crore devotees have come to Maha Kumbh so far and out of about 120 crore Sanatan Dharma followers in the world, half of them have already taken the holy

Addressing the seers in the presence of Kamkoti Peethadheeswar Jagadguru Shankaracharya Shankar Saraswati Vijayendra Maharaj at the Maha Kumbh Mela Mahotsav held at Mahakumbh Nagar, the chief



religion and sect in the world where such a large number of devotees are coming and expressing their faith within

a specific time frame?" He said, "This (Kumbh) has become a medium for the followers of Sanatan

Dharma to exp

and their festivals and celebrations. Adityanath said Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peeth has always

been at the forefront of promoting Sanatan Dharma. "The wide influence of this Peeth across the country strengthens Sanatan Dharma. Whenever Sanatan Dharma has faced any crisis, this Peeth has given its full contribution to protecting the Sanatan Dharma by standing firmly in front of the crisis," he added.

Speaking at an ev

LG urges people to discharge their duties towards

certain period is in itself "one of the rarest events of the century". Welcoming all the guests at the Unicorn Companies Conclave in Agra, Chief

Agra, Adityanath said the

gathering of such a large

number of people during a

Minister Yogi said, "I can call it the Unicorn Maha Kumbh of the startup world. There is an attraction towards the Maha Kumbh at this time." According to a statement.

he said, "This is important for me. Today, I have come to Braj Bhoomi, behind which there has been a spiritual

investigation is on, the officials said, adding it was premature to say whether the gun went

tried to commit suicide.

Preliminary inquiry not mandatory in every case under Prevention of Corruption Act: SC

STATE TIMES NEWS

DELHI: Supreme Court has said conducting a preliminary inquiry is not mandatory in every case lodged under the Prevention of Corruption Act and it is not a vested right of the accused.

The court has said while a preliminary inquiry is desirable in certain categories of cases, including those lodged under the Prevention of Corruption (PC) Act, it is not a mandatory pre-requisite for the registration of a criminal case.

A bench of Justices Dipankar Datta and

Sandeep Mehta has said the purpose of a preliminary inquiry is not to verify the veracity of the information received, but merely to ascertain whether the said information revealed the commission of a cognisable offence.

"The preliminary inquiry is not mandatory in every case under the PC Act." the bench said in its verdict delivered on February 17.

"If a superior officer is in seisin of a source information report, which is both detailed and well-reasoned and such that any reasonable person would be of the view that it prima facie discloses the

offence, the preliminary inquiry may be avoided," it

The top court delivered its verdict on an appeal filed by the Karnataka government, challenging a March 2024 judgment of the state high court.

high court had The quashed an FIR lodged by the Karnataka Lokayukta police station against a public servant for alleged

offences under the PC Act. The public servant was accused of acquiring assets that were disproportionate ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9 **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Jammu Kashmir Raj Bhawan on Sunday hosted the citizens of Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram.

The gathering observed the significance of the foundation day of the two states which was celebrated on 20th February.

In his address. Lieutenant Governor Manoi Sinha paid homage to great leaders and valiant freedom fighters from Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram.

"Such occasions provide us an opportunity to remember that we need to discharge our duties towards the society



LG Manoj Sinha addressing gathering during an event at Raj Bhawan in Jammu.

and the country with complete dedication. I have no doubt that each one of you will act responsibly for progress and prosperity

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Pays homage to great leaders, valiant freedom fighters from Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram Says, it has been my wish that growth, prosperity reaches every individual and every household of country and no one should be CONTO ON PAGE 9

on J&K, to silent skeptics discourse must go aggressive on India



and every occasion when Pakistan and few other countries, particularly Turkiye, Kashmir as an issue that is await-

ing resolution, the Indian Ministry of External Affairs reacts with an emphasis that Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) is and will remain an integral part of the country. This is a truth, which has its roots in his-

While India is used to the hyperbolic rhetoric of Pakistan raising questions about the status of Jammu and Kashmir in world body- United Nations and other international forums, at times it has to contend with similar disturbing statements by few others. In all the cases, the Indian permanent representative at the UN and the ministry of external affairs react with alacrity to set the record

straight. This is becoming a cyclical move. Provocative remarks are made and India reacts and this cycle moves on to the next time as if the cycle is in motion.

The latest provocation came from Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, who during his last week's visit to Pakistan uttered some of very unacceptable remarks regarding Kashmir. He praised Pakistan's "sacrifices" and voiced solidarity with the "Kashmiri brothers".

Such remarks were not heard for the first time from the Turkish President, but this time these were made when Prime Minister Narendra Modi was on the US visit, where he met with President Donald

Taking strong exception to extremely provocative remarks of Erdogan, the Ministry of External Affairs Spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said: "We reject such objectionable comments on matters that are eternal to India. We have lodged a strong protest with the Turkish Ambassador. Such unwarranted statements on India's territorial integrity and sovereignty are unacceptable." The spokesperson asserted that "J&K is an integral part of India and mentioned that "Pakistan's cross-border terrorism policy against India remains the biggest threat to the people of UT."

This assertion was needed to convey to Erdogan and skeptics elsewhere that India's integrity and sovereignty is unchallenged and those daring to question it will

face serious repercussions. Erdogan was just making an attempt to show that there exists an alternative view on Kashmir. This is just frustration and nothing else, or at best a consolation to Pakistan that is now acknowledged as an epicentre of terrorism and stands isolated in the world.

The frustration was evident in Turkish President's remarks that, "The Kashmir issue should be addressed according to the UN resolution through dialogue and keeping

in mind the aspirations of the people of Kashmir," and added with emphasis "Our state and our nation, as in the past stands in solidarity with our Kashmiri brothers today."

These remarks were uncalled for, because the reality of Jammu and Kashmir has changed from turbulent times to normalcy in which the population is finding expression of its aspirations. There is no better solution to any crisis other than peace. That has dawned in the Valley after more than 30 years of highvoltage terrorism, which consumed thousands of lives and disturbed its heritage

and ethos no end. Erdogan must have done it to please his hosts on February 13, knowing well that his words and that of Shehbaz Sharif had no meaning at all but reiterating the worn out rhetoric could inject an alternative narrative on Kashmir. It could not be that the Turkish President was unaware of the reality about Kashmir that has started looking for new opportunities after spending a life of oppression under the spell of terrorism and terrorists sponsored by Pakistan. They have said goodbye to the past and they are making their fruitful footprints into their future where there are no ifs and bust.

India, the time demands, should not only rebuff such unacceptable remarks or Kashmir, but also start a firm narrative or the decisions taken on August 5, 2019 when Narendra Modi government abro gated Article 370 and 35 A, and bifurcat ed the State into two Union Territories of Ladakh, and J&K as the destiny changing measures for the people of Jammu and Kashmir. The people had been longing for peace for decades and that had become illusive because of Pakistan-backed terror ism. There should be more robust diplo matic and political activities. Most of the countries in the world, including many Islamic countries, have endorsed the August 5, 2019 decisions. But to keep the skeptics silent, a new strategy to neutral ize all the counter narratives should be started with factsheet

WEATHER Max: 24.7°C Max: 64

Sunset: 18:16 Hours

Sunrise: 07:04 Hours