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STATE TIMES

THE BOLD VOICE OF J&K

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RNI No. : 66908/96
Regd. No. L-29/JK-346/2025-27
Vol. 30 Issue 34 • Jammu • Tuesday • February 4, 2025 • Pages 12+4=16 • ₹ 5.00
Air surcharge 50 paise for Leh

03 Women-led StartUps from India making global mark: Dr Jitendra

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10 KNVB Dutch Football Association Instructors meet Secy J&K Sports Council

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**EMPOWERING THE MIDDLE CLASS
EMPOWERING INDIA**

Income Tax Department | Central Board of Direct Taxes

MAJOR INCOME TAX RELIEF FOR MIDDLE CLASS

- No income tax for persons having income upto ₹ 12 lakh
- No Income Tax upto ₹ 12.75 lakh per annum for Salaried Class (including Standard Deduction of ₹ 75,000)
- Limit for tax deduction on interest for senior citizens to be doubled from the present ₹ 50,000 to ₹ 1 lakh

For FAQs

J&K gets Rs. 844 Crore Railway Boost in Union Budget 2025-26 Govt committed to enhance railway infra, connectivity in J&K: Vaishnav

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Union Minister for Railways, Information and Broadcasting, and Electronics & Information Technology, Ashwini Vaishnav on Monday said that a budget allocation of Rs. 844 crore has been earmarked for Jammu & Kashmir, underscoring the government's commitment to further enhancing railway infrastructure and connectivity in the region.

Addressing the media of J&K via a Video Press Conference from Rail Bhawan New Delhi, the Minister provided an update on the UT specific provisions in the Union Budget 2025



Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnav briefing media.

related to railway infrastructure and development projects. Providing an update on key railway infrastructure and development projects in Jammu & Kashmir, he announced that all necessary testing processes for the much-awaited Katra-Srinagar railway line have been completed and commercial operations will commence soon. He further highlighted the ongoing redevelopment of

Jammu Railway Station, stating that once completed, direct railway connectivity between Jammu and Srinagar will be operational. The minister emphasized the significant progress made in railway electrification, noting that since 2014, a total of 344 km of railway tracks have been electrified, making Jammu & Kashmir 100% electrified. Addressing a query regarding the need for passengers to change trains at Jammu Railway Station for onward travel to Srinagar, Vaishnav explained that this requirement arises due to the varying terrain and climatic

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Ex-serviceman martyred; wife, niece injured in terrorist attack LG Sinha, CM Omar strongly condemn attack

STATE TIMES NEWS
KULGAM: In the first non-combatant killing of the year, terrorists shot dead an ex-serviceman and injured his wife and 13-year-old niece in an attack in South Kashmir's Kulgam district on Monday, officials said here. Details so far indicate that two terrorists armed with pistols arrived at the residence of Manzoor Ahmad Wagay in Beehi Bagh, approximately 10 kilometers from the district headquarters, and opened fire on his family members, which included his wife and niece. According to initial statements recorded by police and army officials, Wagay, a former member of the



Territorial Army, sustained additional bullet wounds while attempting to protect his niece.

The terrorists, believed to be from banned Lashkar-e-Taiba, fired upon Wagay as he returned home, and all three victims were rushed to a nearby hospital, where Wagay succumbed to injuries. Police have taken cognizance of the incident and initiated an investigation into the attack. The officials said that Monday's attack could possibly be an act of revenge for gunning down the top cadres

of the Hizbul Mujahideen in December last year. Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has strongly condemned the heinous terrorist attack on Ex-Serviceman and his family in Kulgam. He paid homage to Manzoor Ahmad Wagay martyred in the terrorist attack. "I strongly condemn the heinous terrorist attack on Manzoor Ahmad Wagay and his family in Kulgam. The entire nation stands in solidarity with the bereaved family in this hour of grief. I have instructed the officials to provide the best possible treatment to the injured. Praying for their

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CB books 5 top executives including CEO for duping Jammu residents of Rs. 2.95 Cr

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Crime Branch (CB) has booked five top executives, including Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of a company for enticing and duping 10 Jammu residents of Rs. 2.95 Crores, official said. "The accused hail from Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh, whereas all the complainants belong to Jammu," official added. "Victims of big fraud namely Parshotam Kumar, son of Giridhari Lal, resident of Satwari, Jammu and nine

others had lodged a complaint with CB alleging therein that the accused persons namely Rahul Verma, son of Raghbir Sain, resident of Gurdaspur, Punjab, Rajeev Verma, son of Gurdaspur, Punjab, CEO of the company, Pardeep Saini resident of Haryana, Raman Awasthi, resident of Himachal Pradesh, Rishi Sharma, resident of Shimla, Himachal Pradesh and others approached the complainants and apprised

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Shah to review security situation in J&K today

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: Union Home Minister Amit Shah will on Tuesday review the security situation in Jammu and Kashmir which has witnessed a few terror incidents in the recent past, sources said. Shah is expected to discuss the status of the zero-tolerance policy against terrorism and the ongoing operations against terrorists, they said. The review meeting will be held a day after a terror attack in south Kashmir's Kulgam district, in which ex-serviceman Manzoor Ahmad Wagay was martyred and his wife and



niece were injured on Monday, the sources said. Jammu and Kashmir's Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, senior officials of the Jammu and Kashmir Police, Army, Central Reserve Police Force and home ministry are

likely to attend the meeting. During the last review meeting on December 19, 2024, Shah directed all security agencies to continue working in a coordinated manner to eliminate terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir. The government

Govt working on uniform toll policy on National Highways: Gadkari

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: The road transport ministry is working on a uniform toll policy to benefit national highway users, Union Minister Nitin Gadkari said on Monday. Gadkari also asserted that now India's highway infrastructure matches that of the US. "We are working on a uniform toll policy. It will address the problem faced by the commuters," he told PTI in an interview, without elaborating further. Gadkari was responding to

a question on simmering discontent among users of National Highways on account of high toll charges and sub-par road-user experience. The longest-serving road transport and highways minister said that the ministry has decided to initially implement a barrier-less global navigation satellite system (GNSS)-based toll collection system on national highways. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Gadkari said, has been

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No proposal to increase working hours to 70 or 90 hrs per week: Govt

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: The government on Monday told Parliament that it is not considering any proposal to increase the maximum working hours to 70 or 90 hours a week. Recently, some of the corporate leaders proposed to increase the maximum working hours to 70 and even 90 hours a week. "No such proposal to increase the maximum working hours to 70 or 90 hours a week is under consideration of the government," stated Minister of State for Labour & Employment Shobha Karandlaje in a written

STATE TIMES NEWS
MAHAKUMBH NAGAR: The third 'Amrit Snan' at the Maha Kumbh proceeded smoothly on Monday with lakhs of people taking a dip on the occasion of Basant Panchmi and akharas resuming the grand processions curtailed last week when a stampede killed at least 30 people. By 4 pm, an estimated two crore devotees had taken the ritual dip at the Sangam, the confluence of the Ganga, Yamuna and mythical



Saraswati, according to figures shared by the Uttar Pradesh government. After the stampede that broke out at the Sangam

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King of Bhutan to visit Maha Kumbh today

STATE TIMES NEWS
LUCKNOW: King of Bhutan, Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck arrived in Lucknow on Monday to visit the Maha Kumbh, an official statement said. He will visit Maha Kumbh on Tuesday, the statement read. Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath welcomed the King at Chaudhary Charan

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Gaturo Murder case: Delhi CB, J&K Police nab 5 gangsters from ISBT Kashmiri Gate

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Five persons, including the main accused gangster involved in the killing of a 37-year-old Gaturo gang kingpin in Jammu city, have been arrested, police said on Monday. Sumit Jandiyal, the kingpin of the Gaturo gang, was shot dead by three members of a rival group in Jewel Chowk on January 21 in Jammu City. In connection with the

killing of Gaturo gang kingpin Sumit, the police have launched an operation to track down the killers, the officials said. In this direction, the main accused Harash along with others Arun, Ajay and two other supporters Abhay and Raj were arrested by the Delhi Crime Branch and Jammu and Kashmir Police in a joint operation in Delhi, they said. The trio were moving from one place to another after

committing the murder, they officials said, adding they were in the process of escaping to Nepal. They were arrested near ISBT in New Delhi on Sunday in a joint operation of the Crime Branch of Delhi Police and Jammu and Kashmir Police and were handed over to Jammu and Kashmir Police, the officials said. "Harash, Arun and Ajay were involved in that

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INDIA alliance will have to discuss strategy to move forward: Omar

WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 21.0°C Min: 6.3°C

Humidity
Max: 89 Min: 59

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 12.4°C Min: 1.5°C

Humidity
Max: 82 Min: 50

Sunset: 18:05 Hours
Sunrise: 07:24 Hours

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Monday underscored the need for the INDIA alliance to have a structured discussion on its future strategy, cautioning that internal rifts could harm its larger goal. Abdullah parried a direct reply to a question about the prospects of the AAP winning the Delhi Assembly elections and said that party may make a clean sweep like they did in the past. When asked if the contest between the alliance partners in Delhi would weaken the



Parliament. If we continue to break apart, it won't be a good sign." He further said that once the elections are over, a meet-

ing should be called to have an open discussion. On the prospects of the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) in Delhi, Abdullah refrained

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CS for developing grievance portal for persons facing hiccups in availing credit

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, on Monday directed for developing an efficacious grievance portal for the people who face hurdles in availing credit from the financial institutions to start their businesses or for other self employment activities. The meeting besides the Principal Secretary, Finance was attended by Principal Secretary, Agriculture; Commissioner, Secretary, I&C; Secretary, Labour & Employment; Secretary,

PWD; Convenor UTLBC; Representatives from Banks and other concerned officers. Dulloo, while taking cognizance of the Ease of Doing Business in the UT, observed that credit linkage is one of the primary aspects of venturing into any business or establishing a unit. He maintained that any difficulty faced by the potential entrepreneur in availing this credit becomes a stumbling block in advancing his business prospects. He enjoined upon the financial

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