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STATE TIMES

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Need has arisen for clearing some misunderstandings on Geo Administrative order of J&K

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AI, Technology open new doors of opportunities for students, says LG

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Maha Shivaratri celebrated with religious fervour at JKPS Panjtirthi

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

Decade of defence reforms bore fruit during Op Sindoor: Modi

Invites world to host data in India

I am never fully satisfied; public life demands constructive restlessness

Budget shunned populism; bets on capex to power jobs and growth

Modi said the Indian armed forces must be equipped with the best of Indian innovation and industry as technology is reshaping the world and that the NDA government has been working on modernisation and self-reliance in this sector for the last 11 years.

On Operation Sindoor, the prime minister said the entire country is proud of the courage shown by the armed forces.

"During the operation, one could see the benefits of the reforms we have undertaken in the last decade. Therefore, defence budgets, modernisation, etc., all these are parts of our continuous effort and need not be linked to any particular issue," he said in the written interview.

The prime minister was

asked if the higher budgetary allocation to the defence sector was part of the lessons learnt from Operation Sindoor and does it also signal a continued mistrust of India's neighbours, including Pakistan.

"Yes, the reality is that our country has to be strong and be prepared at all times, and that is what we are doing," he said.

Modi said the modernisation of the armed forces has been a priority of his government.

"In this year's budget, a record Rs 7.85 lakh crore have been allocated to the defence sector. This is 15 per cent higher than the previous budget and is also the biggest chunk allotted to any ministry or department," he said.

"If you look at the details, too, there are noteworthy aspects. For modernisation, Rs 1.85 lakh crore have been allotted, which is 25 per cent above last year's allocation," he said.

Modi said the capital expenditure allotment for the three forces is almost Rs 2.2 lakh crore, of which 75 per cent is reserved for procurement from domestic defence industries.

"This not only enhances security but also creates jobs and strengthens our industrial base. The results are already visible -- defence exports have crossed Rs 23,000 crore, a nearly 35-fold rise in the past decade, and indigenous defence production has touched

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The benefits of a decade of defence reforms were evident during Operation Sindoor, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Sunday, asserting that India has to be prepared at all times to deal with security challenges.

As a country that is playing an increasingly important role in the world, India has a duty to modernise its defence sector in line with current realities, Modi said in an

exclusive interview to PTL.

Citing the allocation of Rs 7.85 lakh crore to the defence sector in the Union Budget 2026-27, the prime minister said the outlay is 15 per cent higher than the previous budget and is also the "biggest chunk" given to any ministry or department.

Since day one, the government has been clear -- it will do whatever it takes to support the country's defence forces and strengthen them, he said.

Bhaderwah-Basohli NH reopens after snowfall

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a swift and coordinated operation amid extreme weather conditions, the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) on Sunday reopened the strategic Bhaderwah-Bani-Basohli national highway, restoring connectivity between Doda and Kathua districts of Jammu and Kashmir, a defence spokesman said.

The recent spell of intense snowfall at Chattergala Pass had disrupted vehicular movement along the 65-kilometre stretch, temporarily snapping the crucial link between the mountainous regions, the spokesman

added.

Demonstrating operational readiness and commitment to maintaining all-weather connectivity, he said that the 69 and 118 Road Construction Company (RCC) of the 35 Border Roads Task Force (BRTF) under Project Sampark of the BRO launched an intensive snow clearance drive in challenging terrain near the Ashapati glacier and the foothills of Mount Kailash.

Despite deep snow accumulation, sub-zero temperatures and difficult working conditions, the teams deployed men and

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Police inducts six ERSS dial-112 vehicles

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

DODA: Police on Sunday dedicated six emergency response support system (ERSS) Dial-112 vehicles in hilly Doda district to enhance public safety and strengthening emergency response mechanisms.

Doda Senior Superintendent of Police Sandeep Mehta flagged off the vehicles from district police lines and urged citizens to make responsible use of the Dial 112 emergency service strictly for genuine emergencies.

Under this initiative, each police station in the district has been provided with a dedicated emergency response vehicle, ensuring swift, effective, and time-bound response to accidents, disputes, crimes, and all distress calls received through Dial 112, a police spokesman said.

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Maha Shivratri celebrated with devotion across Jammu

Shankaracharya Temple in Srinagar resonates with Mantras

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU/SRINAGAR: Maha Shivratri, one of the most sacred Hindu festivals dedicated to Lord Shiva, was celebrated with immense devotion and spiritual fervour across Jammu and Kashmir on Sunday. The festival, symbolizing the divine union of Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvati, witnessed thousands of devotees thronging temples to offer prayers and seek blessings.

In Jammu, prominent shrines such as Ranbireswar Temple, Aap Shambhu Temple, and Peer Kho Temple became major centres of devotion. These

temples were beautifully decorated with vibrant floral arrangements and illuminated with colourful lights, creating a divine and serene atmosphere. From early morning, long queues of devotees were seen waiting patiently to perform the sacred 'Jal Abhishek' of the Shivaling by offering water, milk, honey, and bel leaves while chanting Vedic mantras. The air reverberated with chants of "Har Har Mahadev," reflecting deep faith and devotion.

Special Rudra Abhishek rituals were conducted by priests, accompanied by the recitation of ancient hymns

and elaborate Aarti ceremonies. Many devotees observed rigorous day-long fasts, breaking them only

after midnight prayers, considering it an act of spiritual purification and dedication.

Apart from temple ceremonies, various community centres organized devotional programmes featuring Shiva Bhajans, Kirtans, and spiri-

Attends Sant Kabir's Nirvan Diwas commemorative event

Ending social divides, eliminating economic gaps our shared responsibility: LG

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Sunday has urged the people to harness power for societal transformation and craft a blueprint for a prosperous India that lights the world's path.

The Lieutenant Governor was speaking at the commemorative event on the occasion of 508th Nirvan Diwas of Sant Kabir, organised by Shiromani Sant Kabir Bhavan at Chak Awtara Bishnah, Jammu.

The Lieutenant Governor stated that Sant Kabir's eternal wisdom and his message

LG Manoj Sinha speaking at the Sant Kabir's Nirvan Diwas commemorative event at Bishnah.

paves a brighter societal path, deepening our unity while forging spiritual and material triumphs for the nation.

He said that the legacy and

philosophy of Sant Kabir is shining brightest today, awakening society's inner soul.

"India's greatest strength is its ability to master Tech and

Tradition, Microchip and Mantra. Our ancient roots and digital branches, modern tools and timeless values of ancient sages are perfect blueprint for 21st Century

success and prosperity.

India is stepping forward to guide the world toward peace and prosperity through its great saintly tradition and timeless values," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor emphasized that India's timeless mantra "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" the world as one family-holds unprecedented relevance today.

"As global divisions deepen in economic and strategic realms, India's timeless wisdom offers a vision where unity, peace, and joy become a universal way of life.

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Drug peddler arrested

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BUDGAM: A drug peddler was arrested and contraband, suspected to be charas, was recovered from his possession in Budgam district, police said on Sunday.

A police spokesperson said that a team at a checkpoint established at Bathar crossing near the Railway Footbridge, intercepted a suspicious individual.

The individual has been identified as Rayees Ahmad Mir of Mohanpora Ompora, Budgam, in central Kashmir, he said. During search, 31.93 grams of

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Hard work, clear goals, discipline essential for success in life: CJI

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

CHANDIGARH: Chief Justice of India Surya Kant has said that clarity of goals, hard work, discipline, and unwavering determination are essentials for success in life.

Integrity, values, and ethics, along with a sense of dedication to society and the nation, are crucial on this path, he stressed.

The CJI was addressing a gathering as the chief guest at the Maharshi Dayanand University's (MDU) Golden

Jubilee and alumni felicitation ceremony in Haryana's Rohtak district on Saturday,

according to an official release.

Recalling his days at his alma mater, Justice Kant said he never faced discrimi-

nation on the MDU campus due to his rural background. The university provided an inclusive environment where only talent, hard work, and intellectual ability were valued, he said.

The CJI stated that these values laid a strong foundation of his judicial thinking.

Appreciating the university's academic tradition, Justice Kant urged students to remain vigilant about moral values, the spirit

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India outplays Pakistan in T20 World Cup

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

COLOMBO: Ishan Kishan merged power with finesse for a fifty before Jasprit Bumrah destroyed Pakistan top-order with his malevolently talented right-arm, powering India to a T20 World Cup Super Eight berth clinching one-sided 61-run win here on Sunday.

Kishan's supersonic 77 (40b) on a tacky Premadasa pitch was worth its weight in gold, carrying India to a competitive 175 for seven after they were asked to bat

Jammuites celebrate as India defeats Pakistan in T20 World Cup 2026 match on Sunday.

JAMMU CELEBRATES

JAMMU: Jammu erupted in celebration following the thrilling victory of the India national cricket team over the Pakistan national cricket team in today's highly anticipated India-Pakistan cricket match.

The win sparked scenes of jubilation across the city, with a large crowd gathering at Bharat Mata Chowk and other locations to celebrate the triumph. Amid chants of patriotic slogans and waving of the national flag, the atmosphere at the iconic city square turned

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Social justice, equitable development central to NC ideology: Farooq Abdullah

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: National Conference (NC) president Farooq Abdullah on Sunday said social justice and equitable development form the cornerstones of the party's ideology.

In keeping with this spirit, the government led by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah is steadily working to ensure inclusive growth and people-centric governance across Jammu and Kashmir, he said.

The NC chief's remarks came as he welcomed scores of workers from the BJP and Panthers Party

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Weather

Temperature (Jammu)

Max: 25.0°C Min: 11.1°C

Humidity

Max: 89 Min: 86

Temperature (Srinagar)

Max: 18.0°C Min: -0.6°C

Humidity

Max: 96 Min: 96

Sunset : 18:15 Hours

Sunrise : 07:14 Hours

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