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# STATE TIMES

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## 88 countries, organisations adopt New Delhi Declaration

### Back global push for equitable AI

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: In a significant show of global consensus on artificial intelligence, 88 countries and international organisations have adopted the New Delhi Declaration on AI Impact, committing to ensure that benefits of AI are "equitably shared across humanity".

The Declaration, adopted at the conclusion of the AI Impact Summit 2026, lays out a shared vision for collaborative, trusted, resilient and efficient AI systems, with India leading the call for "AI for All" rooted in equity, access and global cooperation. Guided by the principle of 'Sarvajan Hitaya, Sarvajan Sukhaya' (welfare for all, happiness for all), the document underscores that AI's promise can be realised only when its benefits are shared across humanity. It calls for strengthened international cooperation, multi-stakeholder engagement and

respect for national sovereignty while advancing accessible and trustworthy AI frameworks.

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi's human-centric AI vision been accepted by the world. Democratising Artificial Intelligence resources so AI facilities, services and technology can reach everyone in society, that has been accepted by all," IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnav told reporters.

Structured around seven pillars -- termed 'Chakras' -- the Declaration outlines action areas, including democratising AI resources, economic growth and social good, secure and trusted AI, AI for science, access for social empowerment, human capital development, and resilient, efficient and innovative AI systems.

"The AI Impact Summit 2026... concluded with the adoption of the New Delhi Declaration on AI Impact,

### Protest at AI summit well-thought-out conspiracy against India: Rijiju slams Cong

NEW DELHI: Union minister Kiren Rijiju launched a blistering attack on the Congress on Saturday, accusing the opposition party of committing a "big sin" against the country by deploying its youth wing workers to hold a protest at the India AI Impact Summit here.

Turning it "shameful", he alleged that the protest staged by Youth Congress workers at Bharat Mandapam here on Friday was not a mistake but a well-thought-out conspiracy to malign India. The Congress committed a "big sin against the country" ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9



marking a significant milestone in global cooperation on artificial intelligence. The declaration has been endorsed by 88 countries and international organisations, reflecting a broad-based global consensus on leveraging AI for economic growth and social good," an official release said.

The list of endorsing countries includes the US, China, the UK, Russia, France,

Australia, Belgium, Bhutan, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Estonia, Ethiopia, Japan, Italy, Israel, and Ireland.

Indonesia, Iran, Hungary, Greece, Germany, Finland, Mexico, Myanmar, Nepal, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, The Philippines, Peru, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Singapore, South Korea, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

## Made in India chip very important for developed nation: Modi

GREATER NOIDA: The foundation of developed India will be laid on the basis of self-reliance for which having chips made in India is very important, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Saturday. In a virtual address to lay the foundation stone of India Chip Pvt Ltd -- the HCL Group and Foxconn JV -- Modi said a weak supply chain of tiny chips during the Covid-19 pandemic halted development of several economies and stopped work at various factories.

"Developed India will be built only when India is self-reliant. For this, Made in India chip is very important. Whatever India is doing in the field of technology in this decade, it will become foundation of our capability in the 21st century," Modi said.

The India Chip Pvt Ltd -- the HCL Group and Foxconn joint venture for Outsourced Semiconductor Assembly & Test (OSAT) facility -- will come up in the Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority (YEIDA) at Jewar, Greater Noida.

India Chip Pvt Ltd is a 60:40 joint venture between HCL Group and Foxconn. The advanced OSAT facility is expected to be operational by 2028. The company has earmarked an investment of Rs 3,700 crore over the next few years in the facility that will produce display driver chips.

The investment is expected to create over 3,500 direct and indirect jobs, build local supply chains, and attract ecosystem partners across the semiconductor value chain.

With a planned capacity to process 20,000 wafers per month, the facility aims to meet India's growing domestic demand for semiconductor components while strengthening a resilient, self-reliant semiconductor supply chain. "In the last 11 years, the Prime Minister has established India as powerhouse of electronics manufacturing. India is now ranked third among nations that export electronics. In a month, 3.6 crore chips will be produced from this plant. The brain ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9



### Distt Admin Jammu issues partial modification orders regarding NOCs for salary drawal

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Dr. Rakesh Minhas on Saturday issued two partial modification orders concerning the requirement of No Objection Certificates (NOCs) for payment of Electricity Charges and Water Usage Charges in respect of Government employees in District Jammu.

As per the orders issued by the Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Jammu, a relaxation has been granted in the earlier instructions mandating submission of NOCs for salary drawal.

Electricity Charges (Power

Development Department / JPDCL): In partial modification of Order No. D D C J / C P O / 2 0 2 5 - 26/15379-83 dated 16-02-2026, Drawing and Disbursing Officers (DDOs) have been authorized to accept an undertaking/self-declaration from employees who do not have an electricity connection registered in their own name within district Jammu.

This relaxation is applicable only for the drawal of salary for the months of February and March, 2026.

Water Usage Charges (Jal Shakti / PHE

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## Shantmanu takes oath as J&K SEC, hints at holding local body elections

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Former bureaucrat Shantmanu, who was on Saturday sworn in as the State Election Commissioner of Jammu and Kashmir for a five-year term, underscored the importance of holding the long-pending panchayat and urban local body elections in the Union Territory.

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha administered the oath of office to the retired IAS officer at a ceremony held at Lok Bhavan here.

The oath-taking ceremony was attended by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah and



LG Manoj Sinha administering oath of office to retired IAS officer Shantmanu at Lok Bhavan in Jammu on Saturday.

his cabinet colleagues, including Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary and Speaker Abdul Rahim Rather. Chief

Secretary Atal Dulloo and Director General of Police Nalin Prabhat were also present.

Talking to PTI,

Shantmanu said it was a matter of "great happiness and pride" to take over the responsibility.

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### Six lakh lavender free seedlings distributed among 750 farmers in J&K, Uttarakhand

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BHADERWAH: In a bid to further strengthen lavender cultivation, around six lakh free quality planting material (QPM) seedlings were distributed among 750 farmers in different parts of Jammu and Uttarakhand, an official said on Saturday.

The initiative aims at expanding the cultivation of the exotic aromatic crop, enhancing farmers' income and consolidating the region's growing reputation as a hub of lavender production in the country. Sandeep Singh Charak, Lavender Scientist from CSIR-IIIM

Jammu, said.

He said the free seedlings were distributed over the past few days at 50 nurseries of Bhaderwah, widely recognised as the birthplace of India's Purple Revolution.

"IIM Jammu has procured and distributed six lakh lavender seedlings among 400 farmers of Uttarakhand and 350 farmers of Bhaderwah in Doda and twin border districts of Rajouri and Poonch in Jammu and Kashmir," Charak said, adding that the process is ongoing and more farmers will be provided seedlings this season. ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

### Terror threat: Security heightened near key religious, heritage sites in Delhi

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Security was tightened across key religious and heritage sites in Delhi on Saturday, including in areas around the Red Fort and parts of Chandni Chowk, following intelligence inputs suggesting a possible terror threat, an official said.

Security agencies issued an alert on a possible explosion near Red Fort, a major tourist destination and high-security zone, after Central intelligence agencies

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## Crime Branch files Charge-Sheet in Land Fraud Case

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Special Crime Wing (SCW) of the Crime Branch Jammu has filed a charge-sheet in a land fraud case involving Rs 2 lakh, officials said on Saturday.

The charge-sheet has been presented before the competent court in FIR No. 13/2024 under Section 420 of the IPC against Rajinder Singh Manhas, a resident of Purkhoo Domana, Jammu.

According to officials, the case stems from a complaint alleging that the accused executed an Agreement to sell dated April 1, 2022, for five marlas of land situated at

Revenue Village Purkhoo Garhi, Jammu. The complainant paid Rs 2,00,000 as advance out of a total sale consideration of Rs 12,50,000. However, the accused allegedly failed to execute the sale deed within the stipulated time. Subsequent verification revealed that he neither possessed ownership nor any legal title over the aforesaid land.

During the course of investigation, the SCW conducted detailed scrutiny of documentary evidence, including seizure of the agreement and related records. Financial

transactions were verified through bank statements, and revenue authorities were consulted to ascertain ownership details. Official revenue records confirmed that the land was not registered in the name of the accused. Forensic examination further corroborated that the agreement to sell had been executed by him.

After completion of investigation, the charge-sheet was filed by Investigating Officer Inspector Deepak Bharti before the competent court for judicial determination. Senior Superintendent

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## NMC approves 24 Super-specialty PG seats for Jammu, Srinagar GMCs, SKIMS

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a landmark development and significant boost to specialised medical education in Jammu and Kashmir, National Medical Commission (NMC) has approved 24 new super-specialty postgraduate (PG) seats in Government Medical Colleges (GMCs) of Jammu and Srinagar, and SKIMS Soura.

The seats have been approved in streams like Cardiology, Urology, Pulmonary Medicine, Medical Gastroenterology, Paediatric Surgery, Neuro-Anaesthesia, Paediatric and

Neonatal Anaesthesia and Clinical Immunology and Rheumatology.

Welcoming the development, Minister for Health and Medical Education, Sakeena Itoo described this development as a major milestone, adding that this transformational step underscores the Government's firm commitment to expanding specialised healthcare infrastructure and medical education opportunities within Jammu and Kashmir.

"This achievement reflects Omar Abdullah led Government's sustained efforts to improve healthcare

standards and ensure advanced and specialised medical services are available within Jammu and Kashmir.

The addition of super-specialty PG seats will not only empower our young doctors with opportunities for advanced training locally but will also significantly benefit patients by improving access to specialised care," the Health Minister said.

She further emphasized that the expansion of super-specialty seats aligns with the broader vision of strengthening the healthcare ecosystem, reducing patient referrals outside J&K, and

ensuring timely, high-quality treatment closer to home.

The Minister acknowledged the continuous efforts of the faculty, medical college administrations and Department, adding that their dedication and compliance with NMC standards made this approval possible.

She reiterated that the Government will continue to prioritise investments in medical education, infrastructure, and human resource development to ensure that the people of Jammu and Kashmir have access to world-class ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

## Naxalism to end by Mar 31; infiltrators to be removed from voter list, country in 5 years: Shah

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

GUWAHATI: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday asserted that Naxalism would be eliminated from the country by the March 31 deadline set by the government, while illegal immigrants would be removed not only from the electoral rolls but also from the nation in the next five years.

On the second of his two-day visit to Assam, Shah attended the 87th CRPF Day Parade here and laid the foundation stone for the Rs 270-crore new campus of the state police's 10th Battalion, which would be constructed on land freed from encroachment by infiltrators.

Addressing the CRPF Day Parade, the first ever in the



northeast, Shah said the force played an important role in Jammu and Kashmir, where the number of stone-throwing incidents has dropped to zero, besides handling ethnic violence in Manipur and breaking the backbone of Maoists in only

three years.

Naxalism had spread across 12 states and countless districts of the country, and when the Centre resolved to uproot the menace, the CRPF and CoBRA force personnel played the most crucial role in the effort, he

said.

"Because of the CRPF personnel, we can confidently say that by March 31, 2026, the country will be completely free from Naxalism," he asserted.

Shah said in the 86-year history of the force, this was the first time that its Raising-Day celebrations were held in the northeast, which is a matter of pride for everyone and the entire region.

"In 2019, it was decided that the annual parade of the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) would be held in different parts of the country. And today, the CRPF parade is being held in one of the most important parts of the country -- the northeast,"

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

## Visa Fraud Case: Special Crime Wing conducts searches at R S Pura

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A team of the Special Crime Wing (SCW), Crime Branch Jammu, conducted searches on Saturday, after obtaining warrant from the competent court, at R S Pura in connection with FIR No. 10/2025 registered under Sections 420 and 120-B IPC at Police Station Special Crime Wing Jammu.

The search was carried out at the residence of main accused Kartik Choudhary, son of Gurnam Singh, a resident of Purana Pind near SBI Bank, R.S. Pura, in presence of executive magistrate and local police.

"The accused is alleged to have defrauded several residents of R.S. Pura Tehsil by collecting substantial sums



CB team carrying out search at R S Pura.

of money on the false pretext of arranging working visas for their family members to travel abroad," an official said.

Initially, the amount involved in the fraud was less which has subsequently increased to approximately Rs 90 lakhs so far, as more complaints started approach-

ing the agency.

The Special Crime Wing, Crime Branch Jammu, is continuing with its impartial and speedy investigation to unearth further evidence and to identify any other person (s) who may be involved in the commission of the offence.

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**ROZA TIMING**

SEHR TIME: 05:43 (FEB 23)  
IFTAAR TIME: 06:24 (FEB 22)

**WEATHER**

Temperature (Jammu)  
Max: 25.2°C Min: 12.1°C

Humidity  
Max: 96 Min: 84

Temperature (Srinagar)  
Max: 21.0°C Min: 01.8°C

Humidity  
Max: 89 Min: 79

Sunset : 18:21 Hours  
Sunrise : 07:08 Hours