

# STATE TIMES

THE BOLD VOICE OF J&K

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Air surcharge 50 paisa for Leh

03 Constituent Assembly of India had conceived & cultivated very unique safeguards in Article 60 to 'Preserve, Protect, & Defend the Constitution'

08 JKPS Panjirthi student delivers speech at GGF's Martyrs' Day programme

10 Haryana Cricket Academy lifts 14th Police Martyrs Memorial North Zone T-20 Cricket trophy

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## Road Safety First

Your Phone can wait, Life Cannot

Department of Information & Public Relations, J&K

In collaboration with: TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT, GOVT. OF J&K



NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday said the India-US trade deal is a "big decision" that will benefit everyone in the country, and asserted that his government always works in favour of the nation. The Prime Minister made these remarks at the meeting of the NDA Parliamentary Party, coalition MPs present at the meeting said.

NDA coalition members congratulated Modi for the trade deals with the EU and the US, saying it would strengthen Indian manufac-

The Prime Minister said the India-US trade deal is a "big decision" and will benefit everyone in the country, an MP who attended the meeting said.

India and the US have agreed to a trade deal under which Washington will bring down the reciprocal tariff on Indian goods to 18 per cent from a total 50 per cent.

Self-confidence is that power with the help of which everything is possible," Modi said in a post on X in Hindi.

The prime minister said this very power of the

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LG, CM greet people on Shab-e-Barat

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and Chief Minister Omar Abdullah besides Deputy Chief Minister and Ministers on Tuesday extended greetings to the people on the auspicious occasion of Shab-e-Barat.

In a message, the Lieutenant Governor said: "On the holy occasion of Shab-e-Barat, I convey my greetings and best wishes to all.

This sacred night offers devotees a precious opportunity to seek divine pardon, blessings, and wisdom.

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## India-US trade deal 'big decision': Modi 'NDA should not be complacent with wins in various elections'

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

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The Prime Minister made these remarks at the meeting of the NDA Parliamentary Party, coalition MPs present at the meeting said.

NDA coalition members congratulated Modi for the trade deals with the EU and the US, saying it would strengthen Indian manufac-

turers, exporters and entrepreneurs.

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## Inspirational teachers transform students into intrepid explorers: LG



LG Manoj Sinha at the Inspirational Teachers Award Ceremony in Jammu.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on

Tuesday emphasised the need for forward-thinking teachers who can equip students for tomorrow's uncertainties, like

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## Encounter in higher reaches of Udhampur, JeM terrorists believed trapped

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: An intense gunfight lasting nearly an hour rattled a remote forest area in Udhampur district on Tuesday after security forces trapped two to three suspected Pakistani terrorists of the Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) outfit inside a natural cave, officials said.

One of the terrorists was hit during the encounter but managed to retreat into the cave, even as the Army inducted paratroopers and a sniffer dog squad to neu-

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## J&K Govt approves liquidation of SCARD Bank

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir government on Tuesday said it has approved the liquidation of the J&K State Cooperative Agriculture and Rural Development (SCARD) Bank.

In a written reply to the Assembly, minister-in-charge for cooperatives Javed Ahmad Dar said the decision was taken by council of ministers on December 3, 2025. He was responding to a question by PDP MLA Aga Syed Muntazir Mehdi.

"As of now, the department

has not formulated any proposal for the rehabilitation, absorption or provision of compensation to the employees working in the J&K SCARD Bank," Dar said.

However, he assured that the interests of employees will be safeguarded in accordance with the provisions of the Jammu and Kashmir Cooperative Societies Act, 1989, and the rules framed thereunder, subject to future policy decisions or instructions of the government.

Dar further said that measures have been initiated to safeguard the interests of

depositors and borrowers of the SCARD Bank.

"The issues affecting the bank have been examined in detail by the department in consultation with NABARD, and a structured, closely monitored and legally compliant course of action has been advised to ensure an orderly and transparent process," he said.

As part of these measures, a special Know Your Customer (KYC) verification exercise covering all depositors and loanees across branches, including the

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## Night temperatures rise in Kashmir

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Night temperatures across Kashmir rose marginally, with Srinagar recording a minimum of 2.8 degrees Celsius, over three degrees above the seasonal average, officials said on Tuesday.

The minimum temperature in Srinagar city has been rising slowly but steadily since the end of 'Chillai Kalan', the 40-day harshest winter period in Kashmir.

The ski resort of Gulmarg in Baramulla district was the coldest recorded place

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of statehood and the protection of Kashmiris outside the Union Territory.

"We are sitting on a dharna in support of the demand for restoration of statehood," minister Satish Sharma told reporters here.

NC MLA Tanvir Sadiq said all NC members were participating in the protest.

"This was promised to us... It is now time to restore it," he told reporters.

## EOW books 2 for forging documents to secure MBBS admission

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of the Jammu and Kashmir Crime Branch has registered a case against two people for their alleged involvement in securing admission into a medical college here using a forged physical disability certificate.

The EOW received information that a student from Ajas in Bandipora district got an MBBS seat at SKIMS Soura, Srinagar, in 2023 by producing fake certificates showing the student

as a 'person with disability' and belonging to the economically weaker section, despite not being physically disabled, a spokesperson of the agency said on Tuesday.

"Acting upon the information, the Economic Offences Wing, Srinagar, initiated a preliminary verification into the matter.

"During the course of verification, it surfaced that the accused beneficiary, in conjunction with another individual resident of

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## Two BJP MLAs stage walkout over unsatisfactory response from government

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: BJP MLAs Rajiv Jasrotia and Pawan Gupta staged a walkout from the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly on Tuesday, expressing their dissatisfaction with the responses provided by the government on issues raised during the proceedings.

MLA Rajiv Jasrotia walked out after receiving what he described as "unsatisfactory and evasive answers" from the government side.

The walkout comes amid



BJP MLA Pawan Gupta staging walkout.

Gupta from Udhampur also joined the protest and exited the House in solidarity.

protests in and outside the Assembly, with legislators demanding concrete

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## CM tables J&K Jan Vishwas Ordinance, 2025

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Tuesday welcomed the US government's decision to bring down reciprocal tariffs on Indian goods, saying this would bring relief to many exporters in the country who were facing difficulties in view of the increased

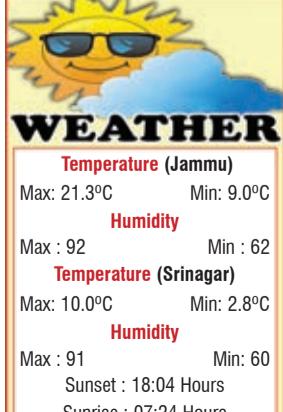
'Relief for our exporters': Omar welcomes US' tariff cut on Indian goods

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Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly.

The Ordinance proposes amendments to certain laws. It seeks to decriminalise a range of minor offences and rationalisation across several sectors.



WEATHER  
Temperature (Jammu)  
Max: 21.3°C Min: 9.0°C  
Humidity  
Max: 92% Min: 62%  
Temperature (Srinagar)  
Max: 10.0°C Min: 2.8°C  
Humidity  
Max: 91% Min: 60%  
Sunset: 18:04 Hours  
Sunrise: 07:24 Hours



Assembly Speaker Abdul Rahim Rather reading out motion of thanks.

economic activity.

He further mentioned key welfare measures, including the free ration schemes and the enhancement of old-age pension, asserting that these initiatives were in line with the commitments made in the election manifesto. Rameshwar Singh who seconded

the motion, reflected the achievements in terms of education, health, rural infrastructure said that the present government has accepted the challenges and the work it has done is praiseworthy.

He also expressed serious concern over the growing menace of substance

abuse and drug addiction in the Union Territory, describing the figures as alarming.

Singh further emphasized that collective efforts are essential to ensure unity and sustained progress in Jammu and Kashmir.

Mohammad Yousef Rather (Tariqami) highlighted that the Budget should have a provision for separate climate fund for Jammu and Kashmir, on the lines of provisions made in other States and Union Territories, to effectively address climate-related challenges.

Sham Lal Sharma said that people need respite from unscheduled power cuts and more efforts need to be taken in this direction as there has been significant increase in revenue realization in the power sector. He also said that JMM schemes need to be completed so that people will have regular water supply. He further said that more avenues need to be created for generating employment for

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Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly.  
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