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03 LIC reports 16.7% rise in nine-month PAT to Rs 33,998 Crore

Chief Minister presents Rs 1.27 lakh Cr budget; emphasises on inclusive growth, fiscal prudence



STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Friday presented the Budget 2026-27 before the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly, marking his second Budget as the Minister of Finance saying that it would lay a strong foundation of enduring economic growth, social harmony and sustainable prosperity.

He said that his Government is committed to transforming J&K into a modern, progressive and economically vibrant region.

The Budget carries a wide range of people-centric ini-

tatives aimed at delivering immediate relief, strengthening social protection, promoting inclusive growth and ensuring equitable development across all regions of Jammu and Kashmir.

The Chief Minister announced 32 major welfare measures for the people in his Budget 2026-27 speech in the Legislative Assembly.

Among the 32 announcements, major welfare measures include financial support for AAY families through six free LPG cylinders per year; development of two Emergency and Trauma Hospitals at Uri and Poonch; bullet-proof ambulances for border districts of Poonch & Tangdar who suffer during cross-border firing and conflict, extending free ridership for women in Smart city buses & other Government transport, free bus services for differently abled passengers in public transport; procurement of additional 200 e-buses, DBT-

based financial reimbursement of fees for AAY students from Class 9 to 12 and for college students; and sponsorship support to 6,000 orphans under non-institutional care.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah began his Budget Speech with a couplet: Safar Taveel Hai, Bhoj Bhi Bari Hai. Par Har Surat, Yeh Safar Jaari Hai. Jaari Hai...

Opening his address, the Chief Minister said: "With deep humility and unwavering resolve, I rise today to present my Second Budget as Finance Minister. It is a privilege to be entrusted with the responsibility of shaping the financial future of our land. This

- Six free LPG cylinders for AAY families, fee waivers for indigent students, sponsorship for 6000 orphans
- Daily wagers' regularisation after panel report
- Unity Mall, trauma hospitals at Uri & Poonch, JK e-Pathshala and new welfare measures to transform lives

Budget is not merely a ledger of figures; it is a fiscal compass charting our path towards a brighter horizon. It lays strong foundations for enduring economic growth, social harmony, and sustainable prosperity. As we embark on this shared journey, I invite every Hon'ble Member of this august House to come together and work collectively to build a strong and flourishing Jammu and Kashmir."

Addressing the House, the Chief Minister, who also holds Finance portfolio, said that beyond sector-wise allocations, the Budget carries a set of focused measures that will directly touch the lives of citizens, particularly the most vulnerable sections. "These initiatives reflect our commitment to social justice, targeted welfare and long-term empowerment," he said.

The Chief Minister informed that total gross receipts for 2026-27 are estimated at Rs1,27,767 crore, with net budget estimates at Rs1,13,767 crore excluding Ways & Means Advances and overdraft provisions.

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NIA raids GMC Anantnag in connection with 'white collar' terror module

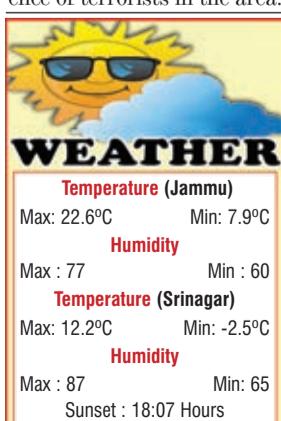
STATE TIMES NEWS

Srinagar: The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Friday carried out searches at the Government Medical College in the Anantnag district of Jammu and Kashmir in connection with the "white collar" terror module busted in November last year.

Officials said a team of NIA sleuths arrived at the GMC Anantnag and carried out searches. They said the searches were in connection with the recovery of a rifle from the locker of a doctor in November last year.

Dr Adeel Ahmad Rather was among the nine persons arrested as part of the terror module investigation that led to the recovery of massive quantities of explosives from Faridabad in the National Capital Region (NCR).

Meanwhile, search operations by security forces were going on in the Koil Karewa area of the Pulwama district, the officials said. They said the search operation was launched following an intelligence input about the presence of terrorists in the area.



ACB arrests ASI from Khour Police Station for taking bribe

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB), Jammu, has apprehended an Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI) of Police for demanding and accepting a bribe in a corruption case, officials said on Friday.

According to the ACB, the accused, Mohinder Lal, posted at Police Station Khour, allegedly demanded Rs 5,000 from a complainant in exchange for taking action against the husband of his cousin sister, who had reportedly been subjected to repeated harassment and assault. The complainant, unwilling to pay the illegal

gratification, approached the ACB to initiate legal action against the public servant.

On receiving the complaint, the ACB carried out a discreet verification, which confirmed the bribery demand. Subsequently, FIR No. 02/2026 under Section 7 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 was registered at Police Station ACB Jammu, and a detailed investigation was launched.

Speaking to the media, Shakti Pathak, Director, ACB Jammu, said, "The Anti-Corruption Bureau treats every complaint seriously and follows strict protocols to ensure that public

servants are held accountable. In this case, our verification confirmed the bribery demand, and a trap operation was conducted meticulously. The accused was caught red-handed while accepting the bribe in the presence of independent witnesses. Legal provisions were strictly adhered to during the arrest and recovery of the bribe amount."

The trap team successfully apprehended the ASI at the spot. The bribe money was recovered, and a search was conducted at the accused's official residence at Police Station Khour premises

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Amit Shah chairs security review meet; Army Chief, top brass in attendance

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday chaired a security review meeting with Army chief General Upendra Dwivedi and senior officials from the security establishment in attendance, to assess the prevailing security situation in Jammu and Kashmir, officials said.

The meeting assumes significance amid stepped up anti-terror operations that led to neutralisation of four hardened Pakistan-native terrorists linked with Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) following nearly a dozen encounters in Kathua, Udhampur and Kishtwar districts of Jammu region over the past two weeks.

This is the second security review meeting chaired by the Union home minister within a month. On January 8, Shah chaired a high-level review meeting on Jammu and Kashmir security in Delhi, and directed contin-



Home Minister Amit Shah chairing security review meeting in Jammu.

uation of counter-terror operations targeting terror infrastructure and financing in "mission mode".

He also asserted that all resources will be made available to achieve the goal of "terror-free" Jammu and Kashmir at the earliest.

Besides the Army chief, Jammu and Kashmir Lt Governor Manoj Sinha, Union Home Secretary Govind Mohan, Northern Army Commander Lt Gen Pratik Sharma, General Officer Commanding Jammu-based White Knight Corps

Lt Gen P K Mishra, Jammu and Kashmir Director General of Police Nalin Prabhat, Intelligence Bureau Director Tapan Deka, Border Security Force (BSF) Director General Praveen Kumar, Central Reserve Police Force DG G P Singh, and other senior military, police, civil and intelligence officers attended the meeting at the Lok Bhawan, officials said.

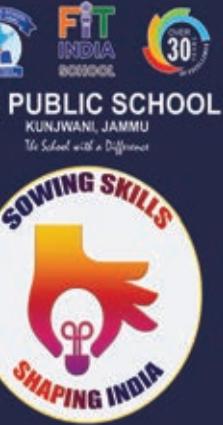
The meeting started shortly after the Shah's return from the Hiranagar sector of Kathua district where he visited border outposts and addressed the BSF troops, officials said.

They said the meeting is expected to review the ongoing anti-terrorist operations and the anti-infiltration grid, besides the measures taken to counter drone activities from across the border, amid intelligence reports suggesting

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Modi also noted that exams are like festivals and should be celebrated. In his interaction with the students during the ninth edition of Pariksha Pe Charcha 2026 with PM, he asserted that comfort zones don't shape life - your way of living does.

Education should not feel like a burden. It needs our total involvement. Education in bits and pieces does not ensure success. Instead of focusing on marks, everyone should focus on where they have made it in life. No matter what your parents, or teachers, or peers say, have faith in and follow your



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Air surcharge 50 paisa for Leh

05 JK Public School Kunjwani organizes Assembly on Positive Thinking highlights discipline and leadership

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

10 Sooryavanshi fires India to record-extending sixth U-19 World Cup title with a knock for the ages

BSF stood like impregnable wall against infiltration, encroachment on country's border: Shah

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Amit Shah, on Friday visited the Border Out Posts (BOPs) 'Gurnam' and 'Bobiya' located on the India-Pakistan border during the second day of his visit to Jammu.

The Home Minister paid floral tributes to the martyrs at the "Ajey Prahari" memorial and also planted a sapling at the Border Out Post Bobiya.

Amit Shah inaugurated projects worth Rs 7 Crore for the welfare of troops, including newly built Solar Water Heaters, Solar Power Plants, and an Officers' mess.

He also laid foundation stone for the BSF infrastructure projects worth Rs 242 Crore.

The event was attended by Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, Union Home Secretary, Director of the Intelligence Bureau (IB), Director General of the Border Security Force, and other senior officials.

Addressing BSF personnel,



Home Minister Amit Shah during visit to a Border Out Post in Kathua on Friday.

- Visits 'Gurnam', 'Bobiya' BOPs, located on IB
- Pays tribute to martyrs at the 'Ajey Prahari' memorial
- Inaugurates, lays foundation stone for welfare projects worth approximately Rs250 Cr for border sentinels
- History filled with bravery and valour of BSF
- Courage, gallantry displayed by BSF in 'Op Sindo' has become a golden chapter in its six-decade history
- Wherever BSF has been deployed, it has proudly unfurled flag of valour

Amit Shah said that whenever he visits BSF posts

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J&K: DPRs prepared to boost rail connectivity in border areas: Vaishnav



Qazigund-Srinagar-Budgam doubling (118 km); Baramulla-Uri new railway line (40 km)

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: In a major push to strengthen rail connectivity in Jammu and Kashmir's border regions, the Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for Qazigund-Srinagar-Budgam doubling (118 km) and the Baramulla-Uri new railway line (40 km) have been prepared, the Government informed Parliament on Thursday.

Providing details in a written reply in

the Rajya Sabha, Union Minister for Railways, Information & Broadcasting, and Electronics & Information Technology Ashwini Vaishnav said these projects aim to further enhance rail infrastructure and connectivity in strategically important areas. He clarified that after DPR preparation, project sanctioning requires consultations with multiple stakeholders, including the State Government.

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Union Budget 2026-27 lays strong foundation for Viksit Bharat 2047: Tarun Chugh



BJP National General Secretary and Jammu & Kashmir Prabhati Tarun Chugh briefing media.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: BJP National General Secretary and Jammu & Kashmir Prabhati Tarun Chugh, along with J&K BJP President and Rajya Sabha MP Sat

Sharma and Leader of Opposition in the J&K Assembly Sunil Sharma, addressed a press conference at the BJP headquarters in Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

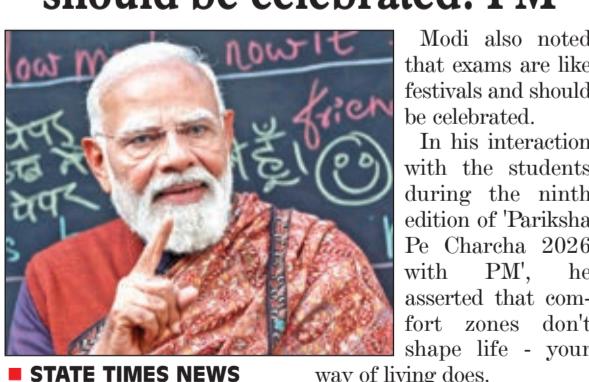
J&K BJP General

Secretaries Sanjita Dogra and Gopal Mahajan, District Jammu President Adv. Rajesh Gupta, and District Jammu South President Nareesh Singh Jasrotia were also present.

Addressing the media, Tarun Chugh stated that over the past 11 years, the Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led Union Government has consistently worked to strengthen India's economic foundation and improve the quality of life of common citizens. He said the government's focus has been on strong economic reforms, infrastructure expansion,

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