

**03 International Women's Day: Valley women still struggling for basic rights**

**06 Demands for restoring pension as it was for GoI employees before 2004 surely have merit**

**09 'Drug peddler' commits suicide in lock-up; 3 cops suspended, magisterial enquiry ordered**

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**ACB caught Govt employee red-handed while accepting bribe**  
■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The sleuths of Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) arrested one Showkat Ahmad, a Technical Assistant, Block Development Office, Arina in Bandipora and his associate Irfan Yusuf for demanding and accepting bribe of Rs 20,000 from the complainant. As per an official spokesperson, the

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

## Nadda pays obeisance at Mata Vaishnodevi Shrine



BJP National President J.P. Nadda after paying obeisance at Mata Vaishno Devi temple along with BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh, party in-charge of J&K and other senior leaders on Monday.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: BJP national president J.P. Nadda on Monday arrived in Jammu and Kashmir in a rousing welcome, his first visit to the region after the abrogation of

Article 370 and its bifurcation into two Union territories in August 2019. He along with his family paid obeisance at the cave shrine of Mata Vaishnodevi in Trikuta hills of Reasi district during his day-long visit. Nadda, flanked by Union minister Jitendra Singh, got a rousing reception as hundreds of youth BJP workers and party leaders led by J-K

## Wanted in extortion cases, Jammu police arrests Royal Singh from Delhi

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Wanted in a series of extortion cases, a three-member team from Jammu Police arrested notorious gangster Royal Singh from New Delhi where he was hiding following the series of complaints after his release from the jail on the court orders. Royal Singh was arrested in Amandeep Murder case in 2009 and was operating a racket from inside the jail also. After his release on court orders, Royal started operating another racket from New Delhi for extortion, betting and gambling. After a series of complaints, Jammu police constituted a team of officers to nab him. "On transit remand he is being shifted to Jammu," sources said, adding, "now he will be produced before court in Jammu from further remand".

On April 17, 2022, Gandhi Nagar police had taken custody of Royal Singh, who at that time was lodged in Central Jail Kot Bhalwal and was undergoing imprisonment for life term, in the firing case. "Royal Singh, son of Manjeet Singh, a resident of Mohallah Dalpatian, Jammu was the main conspirator in the firing on contractor Choudhary Nagar Singh's residence at Gandhi Nagar", police said. On April 3, 2021, an FIR was registered at Police Station Gandhi Nagar after some unknown persons opened fire on the residence of Nagar Singh. In the firing, no one was injured. However, the main gate of the house and a car (HP38F-6187) suffered damages. Cartridges were also recovered from ■ **CONTD ON PAGE 9**

## Exit polls predict BJP's win in UP, AAP's in Punjab

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NEW DELHI: Several exit polls on Monday forecast a clear majority for the BJP in Uttar Pradesh and the Aam Aadmi Party in Punjab with some of them giving an edge to the saffron party in Uttarakhand, Goa and Manipur. Exit polls on CNN News 18, Times Now, India Today, Republic TV, News 24 and News X channels showed the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) getting anywhere between 326 and 211 seats, and its main challenger Samajwadi Party-led alliance getting anywhere between 160 and 71 seats in the 403-member Uttar Pradesh assembly. While India Today-Axis My India predicted 288-326 seats for the BJP and its partners in Uttar Pradesh

and 71-101 for the SP alliance, News 24-Today's Chankya predicted 294 seats for the NDA and 105 for the Akhilesh Yadav-led alliance. News 24-Today's Chanakya predicted 43 per cent vote share for the BJP alliance in Uttar Pradesh and 35 per cent for the SP and its partners. CNN News 18-Matrise predicted 262-277 seats for the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and allies and 119-134 for the Samajwadi Party (SP) and allies in Uttar Pradesh. Times Now-Veto predicted 225 and 151 seats for them, respectively. Most of them were also unanimous in predicting a big win for Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal-led Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) in Punjab, with India Today-Axis projecting up to 76-90

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

## 'Kisan Mela' inaugurated at SKUAST-J Thrust on organic farming to bring paradigm shift in J&K agrarian policy: LG



LG Manoj Sinha speaking at Kisan Mela at SKUAST Jammu.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Lt Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday said his administration is giving a renewed thrust to organic farming to bring a paradigm shift in agrarian policy, rural prosperity and improving the

income and quality of life of farmers. He said 500 enterprising farmers will be provided with handholding and knowledge-based intervention every year to harness the potential of organic produce in the Union

territory. Sinha was speaking after inaugurating 'Kisan Mela' at Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST) Jammu. He laid the foundation

stone for the newly-sanctioned faculties of horticulture and forestry, agricultural engineering and dairy technology. The Lt Governor congratulated the University for

bringing entrepreneurs, technocrats, policymakers and farmers from J&K, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, New Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand on a common

platform. The exchange of ideas and knowledge will encourage agricultural innovation and motivate farmers to adopt productive techniques, he added. The Lt Governor enlisted

various initiatives taken by the government for the welfare of the farming community. We are making efforts to increase productivity

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

**Government of Jammu and Kashmir**

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**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY**

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**Chief Guest**  
**Shri Manoj Sinha**  
Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor

**Guest of Honour**  
**Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, IAS**  
Chief Secretary, J&K

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