

**02** Police attaches illegally acquired property of notorious drug peddler

**03** Jammu to witness historic, unprecedented rally on March 30: Raina

**10** JK Public School Panjtirthi celebrates World Water Day

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## India's borders totally secure: Rajnath Singh

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

**NEW DELHI:** Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Thursday said India and its borders are "totally secure" and the people of the country should have full faith in the armed forces.

During a fireside chat on the concluding day of the Times Now Summit here, while responding to a question on the criticism of the Agniveer scheme, the minister said such questions have "no standing" and underlined that everyone will accept that the armed forces should have a young profile.

During the event, the Union minister also shared anecdotes from his nearly 50-year-long political journey.

Asked how he reacted to questions raised by many, including members of the opposition, on the India-China border issue, Singh said they never made him uncomfortable.



"In keeping with the country's interests, I tell them (opposition) whatever I can. But in defence, there are many things which have strategic importance and we cannot tell them publicly. We try to steer clear of telling those things, whether it is (about) northern, western or eastern sector," he said.

"I want to assure the people of the country... they should have full faith in our

Army and security personnel," the Union minister said.

Indian and Chinese troops are locked in an over three-and-half-year-long confrontation at certain friction points in eastern Ladakh even as the two sides completed disengagement from several areas following extensive diplomatic and military talks.

"Having been the defence

minister for five years and home minister before that, I want to assure the people of the country based on what I have seen, understood and assessed that our borders and our country are totally secure," he added.

The eastern Ladakh border standoff erupted on May 5, 2020, following a violent clash in the Pangong lake area.

The ties between India and China nosedived significantly following the fierce clash in the Galwan Valley in June 2020 that marked the most serious military conflict between the two sides in decades.

As a result of a series of military and diplomatic talks, the two sides completed the disengagement process in 2021 on the north and south banks of the Pangong lake and in the Gogra area. Singh defended the Agniveer scheme,

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### JKBOSE issues revised schedule for Annual Regular Examinations 2024

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: J&K Board of School Education on Thursday issued revised date sheets for Annual Regular examination 2023-24 pertaining to Class X, XI, and XII of Hard Zone areas.

There has been change of scheduled time and the examination will be held in two shifts. The examination of 10th Annual Regular (H/Z) has been scheduled w.e.f. 04.04.24 at 10.00 am (Morning shift) while the examination of 12th class (H/Z) has been scheduled w.e.f. 08-04-2024 at 2.00 pm (Evening shift). Similarly,

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the meeting was attended by Commissioner Secretary, IT, Secretary, Planning; DG, Planning; Director, SDD and other concerned officers of the Department.

During this meeting the Chief Secretary held detailed deliberations with all the stakeholders about the extent and ingredients to be part of this portal. He enquired from the developers about the utility and significance of this portal for the people besides the novel initiatives to be made part of it.

He further asked about the courses to be offered

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## CS reviews development of skilling portal by BISAG



CS Atal Dulloo chairing a meeting in Jammu on Thursday.

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

**JAMMU:** Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, on Thursday had a detailed review of the development of Skilling portal for Skill Development Department (SDD) by

Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications and Geo-informatics (BISAG-N) in association with the NIC and IT Department of the UT. Besides Secretary, SDD

### Arvind Kejriwal's ED custody extended till April 1

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

**NEW DELHI:** A court here Thursday extended the Enforcement Directorate custody of Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal till April 1 in the excise policy case.

The agency sought seven-day custody of the AAP chief, but the court said he has to be produced before it on April 1 at 11 am.

The ED had produced him before Rouse Avenue court Special Judge Kaveri Baweja as his current six-day custody was ending on Thursday.

The ED said in its fresh remand plea that during Kejriwal's custodial interrogation, his statements were recorded over five days but he was "giving evasive replies".

It said statements of three other persons relevant to the case have also been recorded during the remand period.

It said that during the ED custody, Kejriwal was confronted with C Arvind, the then personal secretary to deputy CM Manish

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## Congress leaders grabbed land from landless, Modi gave land to landless: Dr Jitendra

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

**KATHUA:** Union Minister and BJP candidate for Udhampur Lok Sabha constituency Dr Jitendra Singh said here on Thursday that while the Congress leaders grabbed land from the poor, Prime Minister Narendra Modi gave land to the landless and also Pucca house.

Addressing a series of BJP election meetings here, Dr. Jitendra said that for more than six decades, Congress leaders including their elected representatives like MLAs and MPs had made it a norm to threaten the poor and encroach their properties. Under Congress rule, this culture became a country-



Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh addressing BJP public meeting during election campaign in Kathua city on Thursday.

wide phenomena and did not spare even this region of Kathua, where people are innocent and dignified.

Soon after taking over as Prime Minister, Narendra Modi said, "Na Khaunga Na

Khane Doonga" and all the wealth and land looted from the poor by the Congress leaders and their families will be recovered and deposited in State exchequer to be

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## Election notification for Jammu Parliamentary Constituency issued

### Two candidates file nomination

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

**JAMMU:** Returning Officer 5- Jammu Parliamentary Constituency, Sachin Kumar Vaishya, on Thursday issued election notification for the upcoming Lok Sabha elections in the constituency.

The election in this Parliamentary Constituency (PC) is scheduled to take place during the 2nd phase of the electoral process.

The election notification specifies the timeline and procedures for candidates wishing to contest in the parliamentary elections.

As per the notification, nomination papers can be

### Scrutiny of nomination papers completed for 4-Udhampur PC

#### Candidature of 12 candidates found valid, 3 rejected

**KATHUA:** The Returning Officer (RO) for the 4-Udhampur Parliamentary Constituency, Dr. Rakesh Minhas, conducted the scrutiny of nomination papers submitted by candidates for the upcoming 18th parliamentary elections.

The process of the scrutiny was held at the office of Returning Officer here at D C Office complex today.

After thorough scrutiny, the nomination forms of 12 candidates namely Amit Kumar from Bahujan Samaj Party, Balwan Singh from J&K National Panthers Party (Bhim), Dr. Jitendra Singh from Bharatiya Janata Party, Ch Lal Singh from Indian National Congress, Manoj Kumar from Ekam Sanatan Bharat Dal besides Dr Pankaj Sharma, Rajesh Manchanda, Sachin Gupta, Swarn Veer Singh Jaral, Ghulam Mohd Saroori, Mohd Ali Gujjar and Mehraj Din as Independent candidates were found validly nominated candidates. The candidature of three

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filed by candidates or their proposers at the Returning Officer's office (Deputy Commissioner), Jammu or Assistant Returning Officer 76- Jammu East (Joint Commissioner (A) Jammu Municipal Corporation) at Deputy Commissioner's office, Wazarat Road Jammu between 11:00 am to 03:00 pm on any day (other than public holiday) not later than 04 April, 2024.

The nomination forms can be obtained from the office of the Returning Officer, located at the Deputy Commissioner's office

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## Security measures for Lok Sabha polls in J&K reviewed

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

**SRINAGAR:** The security grid in Jammu and Kashmir will continuously monitor and assess the evolving situation with a focus on pre-emptive measures to mitigate any risks that may arise during the parliamentary elections, police said here on Thursday.

Additional Director General of Police (Law and Order) Vijay Kumar chaired a high-level meeting at the Police Control Room (PCR)

to assess and enhance the preparedness for the electoral process, a police spokesman said.

The meeting focused on various aspects crucial for ensuring the smooth conduct of elections in Jammu and Kashmir, the spokesman said.

The meeting was attended senior officers of police, Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), Border Security Force (BSF), and Sashastra

Seema Bal (SSB).

Key discussions during the meeting revolved around bolstering security arrangements, particularly emphasizing on-site security measures and conduct of smooth polls, the spokesman said.

He said the plans for preparing safe routes for the movement of polling personnel and security personnel deployed on election duty were meticulously

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### Jailed gangster-turned-politician Mukhtar Ansari dies of cardiac arrest

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

**BANDA/LUCKNOW:** Jailed gangster-turned-politician Mukhtar Ansari died at the Banda Medical College in Uttar Pradesh on Thursday following a cardiac arrest, its principal said.

Earlier in the day, Ansari was taken to the hospital after his health deteriorated, his lawyer said.

Banda Medical College principal Suneel Kaushal confirmed to PTI

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## WEATHER

**Temperature (Jammu)**  
Max: 31.6°C Min: 18.8°C

**Humidity**  
Max: 62 Min: 50

**Temperature (Srinagar)**  
Max: 18.6°C Min: 9.8°C

**Humidity**  
Max: 82 Min: 65

Sunset: 18:47 Hours  
Sunrise: 06:23 Hours

**Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited**  
**Corporate Headquarters**  
M. A. Road Srinagar  
190001 J&K

## IMPORTANT PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby informed that all branches of J&K Bank shall remain open on **Sunday (March 31, 2024)** for facilitating Government transactions related to payments as well as receipts.

**Note : Electricity bills shall also be accepted at the designated branches.**

**Dated: 28.03.2024** **DIP/J-5915-P/23**

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