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LG orders thorough, transparent investigation into Kathua killings

CM terms killings as "barbaric"

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Sunday expressed pain and anguish over the killing of three civilians Varun Singh, Yogesh Singh and Darshan Singh of Kathua District and ordered a thorough and transparent investigation into these killings.

The bodies of Varun Singh (15), his paternal uncle Yogesh Singh (32) and maternal uncle Darshan Singh (40) were found from the Ishu nullah in the remote Malhar area in the higher reaches of the district on Saturday. The trio had gone missing on March 5.

"I am shocked and saddened beyond words at the brutal killing of Varun Singh, Yogesh Singh and Darshan Singh of Kathua. In this hour of grief, I offer my deepest condolences to their families and friends.



I have ordered a thorough and transparent investigation and all the necessary support to the families will be provided. I assure the people that the perpetrators will be brought to book at the earliest. Justice will be ensured and accountability will be fixed", the Lieutenant Governor posted on 'X'.

Earlier, Union minister Jitendra Singh, who represents Udhampur constitu-

cy that covers Kathua, said the three civilians were killed by terrorists and asserted that there is a "deep conspiracy" to spoil the atmosphere in the area.

The killings have sparked protest in the district.

"The brutal killing of 3 youth by terrorists in Bani area of district Kathua is extremely sad as well as a matter of great concern. There appears to be a deep

conspiracy behind spoiling the atmosphere in this peaceful area," the minister said on X.

"We have discussed this matter with the officials concerned. The Union Home Secretary himself is reaching Jammu so that the situation can be assessed on the spot. I am confident that it will be ensured that such incidents do not happen again and the confidence of the people remains strong," he said.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah termed the killings as "barbaric".

"Deeply shocked and saddened by the barbaric murder of three innocent civilians, including a minor boy, in Kathua. Such heinous acts have no place in our society and must be met with the strongest condemnation. My heartfelt condolences to the grieving families,"

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Union Home Secy reviews security situation in J&K

Anti-terror ops, security for Kashmir Rail line, Amarnath Yatra discussed

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Union Home Secretary Govind Mohan on Sunday chaired high level security review meeting with focus on intensifying anti-terrorist operations ahead of the summer months to neutralise the threat and ensure peace in Jammu and Kashmir, official sources said.

recovered by security forces in the higher reaches of Kathua district, the sources said.



The two meetings, which were attended by senior officers of Army, BSF, Police, National Investigation Agency, Paramilitary Forces and intelligence agencies, came a day after bodies of three missing persons were

They said the meetings also discussed the security arrangements for the Kashmir railway line which is likely to be inaugurated by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi any time soon besides the 38-day annual Amarnath

pilgrimage, which is scheduled to start on July 3.

The sources said General officer Commanding of White Knight Corps Lt Gen Navin Sachdeva, J-K Director General of Police Nalin Prabhat and Director General of Border Security Force (BSF) Daljit Singh Chawdhary

were among the senior officers who attended the meetings.

The Union Home Secretary reviewed the overall security situation in the Union Territory and also

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Police attaches drug peddler's properties worth Rs 3.50 Cr

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Police on Sunday attached properties worth Rs 3.50 crore belonging to an alleged drug peddler in Budgam district, officials said.

"In a decisive step towards eliminating the menace of drugs, police have attached immovable properties of a drug peddler in the Soibugh area," a police spokesman said.

The attached properties -- a four-storey shopping complex comprising 40 shops at Nadigam village and around six kanals of land at Chek Wazir Panoo village -- belong to Ghulam Ahmad Dar alias Gulsaka, he said.

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NMR marks 13.3-point drop; sex ratio at birth improves from 923 to 976

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Neonatal Mortality Rate (NMR) has reached single digit at 9.8 per 1,000 live births in Jammu and Kashmir, recording a 13.3-point decrease, while the sex ratio at birth has recorded significant improvement from 923 to 976, official data showed. The infant mortality

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20-yr-old youth stabs brother to death, elderly man thrown from rooftop

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A youth and an elderly man were murdered in two separate incidents here, police said on Sunday.

In the first instance, a 23-year-old man was killed by his younger brother over a domestic dispute at Smailpur in Domana area early on Sunday, a police spokesperson said.

He said Anil Kumar (20) attacked his brother Mukesh Kumar with a sharp-edged weapon over a

domestic dispute, resulting in his death.

The accused has been arrested, he added.

In the second incident, four persons manhandled an elderly person before throwing him from the rooftop of his house in Shakti Nagar, the spokesperson said.

The accused - Ashok Kumar, Sahil Badiyal, Aman and Rishi - barged into the house of Madan Lal and allegedly assaulted him

and his son Sanjay Kumar over an old enmity, he said.

As per a complaint lodged in this regard, the accused used baseball bats and lathis during the attack before throwing Lal down from the roof, resulting in critical injuries to him.

Lal was shifted to the government medical college hospital, where he succumbed to injuries, police said.

The four accused have been arrested, they added.

Investment proposals worth Rs 1.63 lakh Cr received in J&K till Dec 2024

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Investment proposals worth Rs 1.63 lakh crore have been received till December last year, which will create direct employment opportunities for more than 5.90 lakh people, Jammu and Kashmir government's economic survey report 2024-25 said.

The report, tabled by the Chief Minister in the Legislative Assembly last week, said 1,984 units involving an investment of Rs 9,606.46 crore and providing employment to 63,710 people have come into production in the Union Territory since 2019 till December 2024.

This includes 334 units having employment of 8,443 persons with an investment of Rs 2,977 crores in FY

2024-25 up to December 2024.

As many as 8,306 new applications have been received with a proposed total investment of Rs 1.63 lakh crore and the potential to create employment for approximately 5.90 lakh individuals, requiring 79,137 kanals of land as of December 2024, the survey said.

It said the Industries and Commerce Department envisions sustainable, equitable, environment-friendly and balanced industrial growth and economic development of J&K with focus on employment generation. Development of backward regions and nurturing existing units is emphasized upon in the J&K Industrial policy 2021-30.

To attract investment fur-

ther in the Industrial Sector, J&K Government introduced new policies which include J&K Start-Up Policy 2024-27 and J&K Wool processing, Handloom and Handicraft policy 2020.

Online allotment of land across the Union Territory in a transparent way is ensured through the J&K Industrial Land Allotment Policy 2021-30. These aim to attract investments with incentives like Capital Investment Incentive, GST Linked Incentive, and Working Capital Interest Incentive, it said.

The Centre has rolled out the New Central Sector Scheme (NCSS) with an outlay of Rs 28,400 crores for industrial development of J&K in 2021 which

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Team India lifting the trophy after winning the ICC Champions Trophy 2025 finals from New Zealand at Dubai International Stadium on Sunday.

India lifts Champions Trophy

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

DUBAI: India sealed an unprecedented third Champions Trophy triumph with an unblemished record as Rohit Sharma combined his inherent freedom with steely resolve to inspire his side to a four-wicket win in a closely-fought final against New Zealand, here Sunday.

India won the trophy without losing a match, reflecting their dominance in the tournament which they won back in 2002 and 2013.

No other team has won the event thrice.

Well-timed fifties by Daryl Mitchell (63) and Michael

Proud of our cricket team: Modi

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday hailed the Indian cricket team for winning the ICC Champions Trophy and said they have played wonderfully through the tournament.

Skipper Rohit Sharma led from the front with an excellent half-century as a resolute India held their nerve to win an unprecedented third Champions Trophy title with a four-wicket victory over New Zealand in the final in Dubai.

"An exceptional game and an exceptional result! Proud of our cricket team for bringing home the ICC Champions Trophy," Modi said in a post on X.

"They've played wonderfully through the tournament. Congratulations to our team for

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

of the bowlers, and Rohit, who many believe was featuring in his last ODI match for India, led from the front, slipping into his turbocharged version almost immediately.

The chase of 252 grew tight in the business end while the Blackcaps spinners were operating on a sluggish pitch, but skipper Rohit's ebullient 83-ball 76 had already given them the cushion to overhaul the target in 49 overs.

KL Rahul with his 34 not out, there was no dramatic twist to the tale, leading the side past the finish line

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ROZA TIMING

SEHR TIME:
05:29 (MARCH 11)

IFTAAR TIME:
06:45 (MARCH 10)

WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 26.6°C Min: 12.8°C

Humidity
Max: 75 Min: 53

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 16.1°C Min: 2.2°C

Humidity
Max: 70 Min: 43

Sunset : 18:34 Hours
Sunrise : 06:49 Hours

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