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10 JU shines at 38th Inter-University National Youth Festival

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CM announces committee to devise framework for regularization of Daily Wagers

Sets 6 months deadline for report
Terms it humanitarian issue, not just financial issue

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Tuesday announced to constitute a committee under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo to devise a roadmap for the regularization of daily-rated wagers.

Replying to the discussion on Budget 2025, the Chief Minister said, "Through this House, I am announcing the formation of a committee under the Chief Secretary, with the Additional Chief Secretary to the CM, Commissioner Secretary GAD, Planning Secretary, and Law Secretary. Within six months, we will finalize a framework, determine the exact number of daily wagers, and legally and financially assess how they can be regularized. Then, the policy will be discussed here in the next budget."



CM Omar Abdullah replying during discussion on Budget 2025 at J&K Assembly on Tuesday.

Speaking about the plight of daily wagers, the Chief Minister emphasized that this is not merely a financial issue but a humanitarian and social concern. Referring to the use of force against protesting daily wagers in Srinagar and Jammu, he remarked, "What happened

to them yesterday, I do not want to repeat. But I must ask-why did the situation reach this stage?"

He recalled that during his previous tenure as Chief Minister, his government had initiated a framework for regularizing daily wagers. However, he noted that the

2014 elections and the devastating floods had disrupted these plans. Taking a dig at the opposition, he questioned their inaction, stating, "What did you (the opposition) do? I reviewed past budget speeches from your tenure and found no mention of daily wagers except in the fourth budget speech, where you vaguely spoke about 'sustainable livelihood.'" He further pointed out that even after the issuance of SRO-520, only 577 daily wagers were regularized.

The Chief Minister highlighted that, over the past decade, opposition which were in power then failed to address the issue, despite having both state and central authority. He accused them of prioritizing the 7th Pay Commission over the regularization of daily

'Rs 143 Cr Tawi River Front Project to be completed by April 2025'

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Minister for Jal Shakti, Javed Ahmad Rana, on Tuesday informed the House that the Tawi River Front Project (Phase 1) shall be completed in April, 2025 with an allotted cost of Rs 143.00 crore.

The Minister was replying to a question raised by Arvind Gupta in the Legislative Assembly.

Parliamentary panel to launch website to invite suggestions on simultaneous polls

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: The parliamentary panel examining 'one nation, one election' bills will soon launch a website to invite suggestions from across the country on the issue.

BJP leader P P Chaudhary, the chairman of the Joint Committee on the Constitution (One Hundred and Twenty-Ninth Amendment) Bill, 2024,

Govt bans Mirwaiz's AAC, J&K IM for 5 years

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI/SRINAGAR: The Centre on Tuesday banned the Awami Action Committee (AAC), headed by Kashmir's influential cleric Mirwaiz Umar Farooq, and Shia leader Masroor Abbas Ansari-led Jammu and Kashmir Ittihadul Muslimeen (IM) for five years due to their alleged anti-national activities, supporting terrorism and fuelling secessionist activities.

With this, barring the People's Conference led by Bilal Lone, all other constituents of moderate Hurriyat Conference have been banned by the government under the provisions of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA).

The two organisations -- Awami Action Committee (AAC) and Jammu and Kashmir Ittihadul Muslimeen (JKIM) -- have been banned for a period of

five years and the same could be contested after a Tribunal is constituted by the government.

In a post on X, Union Home Minister Amit Shah wrote about the banning of these two organisations saying they were found inciting people to cause law and order situations, posing a threat to the unity and integrity of Bharat.

"Anyone found involved in activities against the nation's peace, order, and sovereignty is bound to face the crushing blow of the Modi govt," he said.

In two notifications, the Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) said the AAC and JKIM are indulging in unlawful activities that are prejudicial to the integrity, sovereignty and security of the country.

The home ministry said the leaders and members of AAC and JKIM have been involved in mobilising funds

for perpetrating unlawful activities, including supporting secessionist, separatist and terrorist activities in Jammu and Kashmir.

It said their members by their activities show sheer disrespect towards the constitutional authority and constitutional setup of the country and the outfits are involved in promoting and aiding the secession of Jammu and Kashmir from India by involving in anti-national and subversive activities, sowing seeds of disaffection amongst people.

The AAC and JKIM are exhorting people to destabilise law and order, encouraging the use of arms to separate Jammu and Kashmir from the Union of India and promoting hatred against the established government, the ministry said.

The notification cited several cases and chargesheets filed by the Jammu

Anti-encroachment drive on prime lands in Jammu city, 30 structures demolished

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: In a significant move to reclaim encroached land, the Jammu Development Authority (JDA) on Tuesday conducted a demolition drive as per the direction of Vice Chairman, JDA Pankaj Kumar Sharma with active support by District administration and police coordination led by SDPO Jammu East, SHO Bagh-e-Bahu, SDPO Nagrota and SHO Nagrota.

The drive was aimed at removing illegal structures and encroachments from its properties. The operation was a part of JDA's ongoing efforts to free up land that

had been unlawfully occupied, and to ensure the proper utilization of the city's resources for planned development. The drive was conducted successfully and was led by Garbi Rashid, Director Land Management JDA with active support of Senior Superintendent of Police, Jammu.

In this demolition drive, a total of 30 plinths and a newly under-construction residential building was demolished under Khasra Nos. 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, and others in Rangooro village, Sidhra. Approximately 25 kanals of JDA land

India made rapid strides in healthcare in past 10 years: LG



LG Manoj Sinha speaking after inaugurating Shri Birendra Rai Hospital at Areraj, Motihari, Bihar on Tuesday.

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday said that India has made rapid strides in health-

- ▶ Inaugurates Shri Birendra Rai Hospital at Areraj, Motihari, Bihar
- ▶ Hospital will offer services in specialities, using latest cutting-edge healthcare technology
- ▶ Says, our innovations in technologies and treatment are rated amongst best and our healthcare professionals have demonstrated excellence and they are competing with leading health institutions of developed countries
- ▶ We should now focus on expanding coverage of health services and giving access to affordable medical facilities to people in far flung areas while ensuring quality service across vast spectrum of healthcare
- ▶ High standard of our care practices, along with equitable, integrated and people-centered, comparative cost advantages and efficient services have made India favourite destination for medical treatment

Pak-sponsored terrorism will be crushed in J&K: Chugh

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh on Tuesday termed the killing of three youths in Jammu and Kashmir as heinous and brutal crime for which the culprits would be punished soon.

He said there seemed to be a deep-rooted conspiracy to disturb law and order in J&K, which would be never allowed.

He said as three youths

went missing there were apprehensions about terror activities in the region.

Chugh said the security forces would leave no stone unturned to catch the Pakistan-sponsored terrorists and restore people's confidence.

Two boys go missing in Kathua

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Two boys have gone missing in Kathua district, which recently witnessed the mysterious deaths of five civilians prompting the authorities to launch a probe.

A police officer said on Tuesday that the two boys - Deen alias Dinu (15) and his relative Rehmat Ali (12) had gone missing on February 27 after they had gone to graze their cattle at Bhamberwan. Police have

CJ inaugurates Legal Aid Clinic at GMC Srinagar

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: In a significant step towards integrating legal aid services within the healthcare system and ensuring access to justice for all, a Legal Aid Clinic & Support Centre was inaugurated on Tuesday at Government Medical College (GMC), Srinagar by Justice Tashi Rabstan, Chief Justice, High Court of J&K and Ladakh & Patron-in-Chief, J&K Legal Services Authority, in presence of Justice Atul Sreedharan, Executive Chairman, J&K Legal Services Authority.

On their arrival, the Chief Justice and Justice Atul Sreedharan, accompanied by



Chief Justice Tashi Rabstan inaugurating Legal Aid Clinic & Support Centre at GMC Srinagar on Tuesday.

M. K. Sharma, Principal Secretary to Chief Justice, were warmly received by Shazia Tabassum, Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority; Tasleem Arief, Principal District & Sessions Judge (Chairman, DLSA Srinagar); Prof. (Dr.) Iffat Hassan Shah, Principal & Dean, GMC Srinagar; Jahangir Ahmad Bakhshi, Joint Registrar (Judicial/Protocol) Srinagar; Sajad-ur-Rehman,

4 killed, 8 injured as vehicle falls into gorge

STATE TIMES NEWS
REASI: Four persons were killed and eight others injured on Tuesday when a vehicle they were travelling in skidded off the road and rolled down into a deep gorge in Reasi district, officials said.

The accident took place near Gangode area in the district when the driver reportedly lost control over the tempo traveller, causing it to roll into the deep gorge.

Immediately after the mishap, local police and SDRF personnel rushed to the spot to carry out rescue operations, they said. Three persons died on the spot,

Several businessmen duped of over Rs 25 Cr CB books de-facto top executive of Katra-based company for multi-crore fraud

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Crime Branch (CB) has booked de-facto top executive of Katra-based company and others for multi-crore fraud in which several businessmen have been duped of over Rs. 25 crore.

"A written complaint was received in Crime Branch (EOW) Jammu from Ravinder Kumar Gupta (Manager, Hind Agro Foods) Jammu wherein it was alleged that Rajeshwar Sabarwal, son of Sham Lal, resident of 122, Sector 1, near Gurdwara Channi

Himmat, Jammu by hatching conspiracy with others committed fraud and cheating with him and misappropriated rice and pulses worth Rs. 4.30 Crore which he fraudulently received from the complainant on the pretext of supplying the same to Army," CB official said.

"The accused gets supply of products from businessmen fraudulently on false assurance, makes certain payments for some short period to gain confidence and when receives huge products, abruptly stops the payments. He has committed similar

nature of cheating with other reputed businessmen worth Rs. 20 crores to Rs 25 crores adopting the same modus-operandi," official added.

The complainant stated that his firm Hind Agro Foods having office at Akhnoor Road, Barnai Jammu deals in grading, sorting and packing of basmati and non-basmati rice, pulses and other food items.

The accused Rajeshwar Sabarwal was introduced to the complainant by one Bharat Bhushan Gupta, a transporter who

ROZA TIMING

SEHR TIME: 05:27 (MARCH 13)
IFTAAR TIME: 06:46 (MARCH 12)

WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 29.8°C Min: 17.2°C

Humidity
Max: 58 Min: 46

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 11.9°C Min: 5.6°C

Humidity
Max: 95 Min: 72

Sunset: 18:35 Hours
Sunrise: 06:46 Hours

Ruckus in LA, BJP MLAs walkout over action against protesting daily wagers

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: BJP members staged a walkout from the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly on Tuesday after a war of words with NC MLAs over the detention and baton charge of protesting daily wage employees of the Jal Shakti department.

Scores of Jal Shakti (PIHE) department workers and daily wagers were baton-charged and detained on Monday during demonstrations in Srinagar and Jammu as they marched towards the Assembly and the chief minister's residence demanding release of their wages and regularisation. Their march was foiled by police authorities.

Intervening in the House, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah said it was a humanitarian issue and that



BJP MLAs staging walkout from J&K Assembly on Tuesday.

members should wait for the government's response on the issue of fulfilment of their demands.

"As far as the cane charge is concerned, the police are neither under your control

nor ours, and such an incident should not have taken place," he said.

MLA Vikram Randhawa, supported by BJP members, blamed the government for forcing daily wagers to take

National Conference government for the current crisis.

However, Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary countered, and said the NC government had employed these daily workers and would ensure their regularisation.

The House soon plunged into chaos with heated verbal exchanges between NC and BJP members. Some members also used derogatory language against each other. Speaker Abdul Rahim Rather later expunged the remarks.

The Chief Minister said the baton-charge should not have taken place, as those protesting were our employees.

Regarding the police action, Abdullah said, "Neither you nor we have control over them."

Work on Satwari to Last Morh Gandhi Nagar Flyover takes off; traffic advisory issued

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Traffic police have issued an advisory for commuters mentioning diversion of traffic movement in view of construction of flyover from Satwari Chowk to last Morh Gandhi Nagar, which started on Tuesday.

"As intimated by Project Director NHA, PIU-Jammu, the construction work of flyover from Satwari Chowk to last Morh Gandhi Nagar will be undertaken by the concerned executing agency from March 11, 2025. In this regard, the tube coming from Satwari Chowk towards Last Morh Gandhi Nagar shall remain restricted for the movement of General Traffic during the said construction work. Hence for ensuring hassle free movement of traffic, the

traffic diversions have been placed on ground," an official handout stated.

As per diversion plan, all interstate vehicles coming from Samba/ Kathua via Kunjwani, Gangyal bound for Jammu City shall be diverted from Satwari Chowk towards MH Hospital Road - Beli Charana - 4th Tawi Bridge - Asia Crossing/ Canal Head and further towards their destination.

Similarly, all kinds of vehicles coming from R.S Pura, Miran Sahib and adjoining areas bound for Jammu City shall be diverted from Satwari Chowk towards MH Hospital Road - Beli Charana - 4th Tawi Bridge - Asia Crossing/ Canal Head and further towards their destination.