

Vol. 30 Issue 81 • Jammu • Monday • March 24, 2025 • Pages 12 • ₹ 5.00



Regd. No. L-29/JK-346/2025-27 India today global player in life sciences, biomanufacturing;

Silent Threat-rising heart rhythm disorders and urgent need for awareness: Dr Sushil

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

Air surcharge 50 paisa for Leh Ton-up Kishan fashions 44-run win for Sunrisers Hyderabad over Rajasthan

(Affiliated To JK Board Of

Admissions Open

Transport Facility Available On All Routes

UU J&K needs integrated ecosystem: Dr Jitendra

No Admission Fee.

THE PRE SCHOOL

SECTOR - D SAINIK COLONY)

(Ph: 9070327333, 9797307255)

Proud that J&K has found its place in film-making: LG



LG Manoj Sinha speaking at the 'Tawi Filmotsva', organised by J&K Cine Association, at Abhinav Theatre Jammu on Sunday.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Sunday inaugurated the 'Tawi Filmotsva', organised by J&K Cine Association, at Abhinav Theatre Jammu.

In his address, the Lieutenant Governor extended his felicitations to the

organizers, participating Film-makers, and everyone associated with the short film festival dedicated to promote local talents.

"Cinema is an effective medium of education and a powerful agent of social change. I want our local talent to maintain a balance

between entertainment and social concern and use this powerful medium for the benefit of society and social transformation,

Lieutenant Governor said. The Lieutenant Governor spoke on the progressive Film policy and other

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

LG inaugurates Tawi Filmotsva, a short film festival dedicated to promote local talents

- Calls upon local talent to maintain balance between entertainment and social concern; use powerful medium of Cinema for benefit of society and social trans-
- Our efforts of peace, development in past 5 years have made J&K more attractive destination for Hindi, Regional, Foreign film shooting
- Highlights that technological advancement has helped local budding film-makers, ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

"Over 350 films, web series shot in 5 yrs"

JAMMU: More than 350 films and web series have been shot in the picturesque locales of Jammu and Kashmir in the last five years, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Sunday said highlighting that peace holds the key to overall development. Sinha was talking to reporters after inaugurating 'Tawi Filmotsva', a short film festival dedicated to promote local talent here. "In the past five years, especially after the framing of new film policy in 2021, more ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Road crash on Srinagar-Sonamarg road leaves 4 dead

LG, CM express grief over loss of lives

Encounter underway in Hiranagar; DGP visits spot

PRE SCHOOL SECTION POWERED BY EUROKIDS

Terrorist hideouts busted in Doda, Poonch

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A gunfight broke out on Sunday after security forces intercepted a group of terrorists who had infiltrated and taken shelter in a dense near International Border in Kathua district officials said.

The encounter started when the Special Operations Group of Jammu and Kashmir Police launched a search operation in the nursery in Sanyal village, oneand-a-half kilometres from the border in Hiranagar sector, after receiving information in the evening about the presence of terrorists in the area, the officials said.

They said the hiding terrorists opened heavy fire on the police party, which retaliated.

There was no report of any casualty in the initial exchange of fire, which went on for nearly half an hour. Reinforcements from police, Army and paramilitary forces were rushed to the

area, the officials said. The cordon around the ened and efforts are on to neutralise the terrorists, they

Some village women, who had gone to collect firewood from the nursery, spotted the terrorists, said to be

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

CM Omar Abdullah calls on LG



CM Omar Abdullah calling on LG Manoj Sinha in Jammu.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu and Omar Abdullah called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha here on Sunday evening, officials said.

India imposes

anti-dumping duty on five

Chinese products

NEW DELHI: India has

imposed anti-dumping duty

on five Chinese goods,

including vacuum flasks and

aluminium foil, during the

month so far to guard

domestic players from cheap

imports from the neighbour-

ing country. These duties

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

were imposed as these

STATE TIMES NEWS

two at the Raj Bhawan lasted Kashmir Chief Minister nearly 15 minutes, the officials said A Raj Bhawan spokesper-

son confirmed the meeting but gave no further details.

The meeting between the

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Three tourists

from Maharashtra and their local driver were killed and 17 people injured when a bus and a taxi collided on the Srinagar-Sonamarg road in Ganderbal district on Sunday, officials said. Both the vehicles sustained

major damages in the accident, which took place at

Officials said the injured people are undergoing treat-

A police official identified



Ashish, Nikki Ashish and Hetal Ashish, all residents of Maharashtra. Ahmad, the local driver, was

Manoj Sinha and Chief Minister Omar Abdullah expressed their sorrow over

the deaths.

"I am deeply saddened to learn about the loss of precious lives in a tragic road accident in Ganderbal today. My sincere condolences to the bereaved families in this hour of grief. Praying for the early recovery of the injured," Sinha said in a statement. "Deeply saddened by the tragic road accident on highway near Gund, Kangan, which has claimed several lives and left many others injured. My heartfelt condolences to the bereaved

CE Project Sampark inspects key road infra projects in Rajouri-Poonch belt others, Brigadier Madan vis-

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Brigadier Neeraj Madan, Chief Engineer, Project Sampark, conducted an extensive three-day inspection of major road infrastructure projects in the twin border districts of Rajouri and Poonch in Jammu and Kashmir, a defence spokesman said on Sunday.

Accompanied Commander 31 Border Roads Task Force and Officers Commanding 58 and 79 Road Construction Companies (RCCs) among

ited Rajouri-Thanamandi-Surankote road, Akhnoor-Poonch national highway and Poonch-Rawalakot road up to the Line of Control (LOC), the spokesman said. The chief engineer assessed

the progress, quality and safety standards of ongoing construction works, emphasizing the need for timely completion and enhanced regional connectivity During the visit, key issues

RSS resolves to build 'harmonious, organised Hindu society "Religion-based reservation violates Constitution"

STATE TIMES NEWS

BENGALURU: The RSS passed a resolution to build a harmonious and organised Hindu society" for world peace and prosperity at its Akhil Bharatiya Pratinidhi Sabha, its highest decisionmaking body, on Sunday.

Rashtriva Swavamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat, general secretary Dattatreva Hosabale, BJP president J P Nadda, BJP general secretary B L Santhosh and heads of 32 outfits affiliated to the RSS participated in the three-day event that concluded on

Sunday India being an ancient culture with rich traditions has the experiential wisdom to create a harmonious world, the RSS said in its resolu-

"Our thought protects the entire humanity from divisive and self-destructive tendencies and ensures peace and a sense of oneness among living and non-living beings," RSS said.

It said that the Hindu society will be able to fulfil its global responsibility effectively, only on the basis of an organised and collective life, full of self-confidence founded on 'Dharma'.

"Therefore, our duty is to resolve to build a model society following harmonious practices rejecting all types of discriminations, valuebased families founded on eco-friendly lifestyle and commitment to civic duties full of selfhood," the resolution said.

It added that the resolve will enable us to build a strong national life, materially prosperous and replete with spirituality, mitigating the challenges and solving all the problems of the society.

"The ABPS calls upon all Swayamsevaks to commit themselves to present a role model of a harmonious and organised Bharat before ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Tourism-related infra being developed along Mughal road

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir government plans to develop tourism-related infrastructure at several scenic locations along the Mughal road, which connects Poonch and Rajouri with south Kashmir's Shopian. Chief Minister Abdullah has said.

Dubjan, Mughal Sarai, Peer-ki-Gali and Shakroo Keller located on the Mughal Road are known for their natural beauty and scenic landscapes, making them promising destinations for development, Abdullah, who is also

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: In a moment of great pride for entire Jammu & Kashmir, Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo was on Sunday honoured with the prestigious Diamond States Award at the grand finale of Diamond States Summit 2025, organized by News18

The award was presented by Jyoti Kamal, Managing Editor, News18 India to Atal Dulloo in recognition of J&K's exemplary performance in governance, development and progressive initiatives during the past few In this regard the Chief

Secretary expressed grati-



CS Atal Dulloo being honoured with prestigious Diamona States Award at grand finale of Diamond States Summit 2025, organized by News18 India.

tude for the recognition and dedicated the award to the people of Jammu & Kashmir and the collective efforts of the Administration.

He highlighted the efforts

made by the Government of J&K in collaboration with Central Government in ushering an era of peace, prosperity and development.

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Amit Shah's reflections on new foundations of democracy



JAMMU: This time when Union Home Minister Amit Shah spoke on Jammu and Kashmir in Rajya Sabha, he reflected on the Assembly elections of last year, which he

said laid foundation of democracy in the Union Territory. These words resonated free and fair polls in which lakhs of voters participated with unprecedented enthusiasm, turning a new corner in the electoral history of the erstwhile state, which is now split into two union territories - J&K with a legislature, while Ladakh remains without one.

Among the remarkable things that the Home Minister counted about the elections was that not even a single bullet was fired, but the bigger accomplishment

lay in the fact that not a single complaint was filed regarding any rigging in any of the hundreds of polling booths. That is what the real democracy means. It was in complete contrast to all the previous elections when such complaints would galore and the voters felt cheated .Here, thee sight cannot be lost of the rigged 1987 elections, which are traced as being at roots of the militancy that erupted in Kashmir thereafter. Some may say that the Assembly elec-

tions of 2024 were a course correction, which indeed it was. The results were as per the way voters voted. The party -National Conference that won a majority of seats in the polls formed the government, while BJP despite having largest share in the overall voting percentage did not attempt to negate the results. That was in conformity with the democratic spirit in which the elections were held.

Three-phased Assembly polls in J&K in September-October last year had several new dimensions, which the erstwhile state had not seen ever before. First, of course that the representation of the people was increased because of the fresh delimitation undertaken for two years

PERISCOPE

from 2020 to May 2022, which added six new seats in Jammu region from 37 to 43 and the Valley got 47 seats, one up from its previous tally of 46. The Delimitation Commission touched the minutest of concerns of the people living in remote areas and their plea for representation in the legislature.

Second, some may agree or not, the vote in the UT of J&K, first since the abrogation of Article 370 in which the terms of the vote and the mandate that it

was to grant were clear from the very start of the election process. There was no ambiguity as to what kind of area of governance would be coming as a result of the mandate.

Third, from start to end the election process was transparent, so much that the Ministry of External Affairs facilitated visit of several Delhi-based envoys of various influential countries in the world. to see for them the way voting took place. It is very rare that the international diplomats praise the election processes, but those who visited the polling booths termed it as the manifestation of vibrant Indian democracy.

There is another part of the visit of the envoys, all of whom were seasoned diplomats, that they visited the interiors and witnessed how the voters had lined up at polling booths, with no trace of fear of the past on their faces. Instead what they

saw was a glow and glorification of democracy and assertion of their voting rights.

And when Home Minister said that the Modi government laid foundation of democracy, he not only spoke of the Assembly polls but also of the grassroots democracy. More than 33,000 contestants were elected to Panchayats, Block Development Councils, and District Development Councils. The democracy clocked several miles all at once Combined with the Assembly polls, the elected representatives to these grass roots democratic institutions brought J&K on the democratic map of the coun try like other states and union territories

Now it is the responsibility of the elected representatives in the government and opposition to preserve this demo cratic spirit and advance it for the coming generations.

Max: 30.3°C Max : 58 Max: 23.1°C

SEHR TIME: 05:15 (MARCH 25)

IFTAAR TIME: 06:52 (MARCH 24)

Max: 44 Min: 20 Sunset: 18:44 Hours Sunrise: 06:31 Hours