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Eli Lilly Global CEO meets Dr Jitendra; discusses Insulin, NCD drugs collaboration

Regd. No. L-29/JK-346/2025-27

GoI releases Rs 14.75 cr for 4 projects under Khelo India scheme in 2018-19

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

Jandyal Cricket Club lifts Anti-Drug **Veteran Cricket League trophy**

CM reaffirms commitment to free We must bring generations together to preserve, 200 units of electricity

"Will fulfill our promises systematically, responsibly"

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Tuesday reiterated his government's commitment to fulfilling all promises made in its manifesto, including the provision of 200 units of free electricity to eligible households.

Responding to supplementary questions from several during the Question Hour of the Ongoing Budget Session in the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly, the Chief Minister emphasized his government's intent and commitment to delivering on its pledges. "Whatever promises we have made in our manifesto, if we have the intent and commitment, we will fulfill them," he asserted. As a first step, the government has prioritized the poorest and most deserving households, ensuring that the initiative is rolled out systematically.

"We are not distorting facts-nor have we done so in

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A massive search

operation to track down a

group of infiltrating terror-

Kathua district on Tuesday.

Over 3.6 lakh students

appear in BOSE exams

in J&K, Ladakh

JAMMU: The JKBOSE has

successfully conducted the

annual examinations for

10th, 11th and 12th classes,

which were spread over 3600

centres across the Jammu

and Kashmir and Ladakh

In all, over 3.6 lakh stu-

dents took the exam at the

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

designated centres set

Union territories

STATE TIMES NEWS

officials said

ists continued for the third

Massive search ops to track down terrorists

enters third day in Hiranagar

day in a forested area in an encounter between securi-

the past, nor will we do so now. This process will take systematically. Naturally, we will begin with those who are the poorest and most deserving. We are prioritizing the AAY category, but in the future, we will

Addressing concerns and skepticism regarding the initiative's feasibility, the Chief Minister urged critics to

expand its scope. This is just

the beginning," CM Abdullah

withhold judgment until the

process officially begins. "Some are quick to dismiss this initiative, saying it won't work-even before it has started. Let it begin first. Then, we will evaluate its progress. If it doesn't work, we will reassess. But our intention is clear: to provide electricity to the people," he remarked. Using a metaphor, he underscored the government's focus on delivering

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Our commitment is for restoration of statehood: Omar

JAMMU: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Tuesday reiterated his government's unwavering commitment to the restoration of Jammu and Kashmir's statehood, emphasizing that political theatrics will not alter the current reality. Speaking in the Legislative Assembly, he highlighted the extensive efforts undertaken by his administration to press for statehood, including a cabinet resolution and direct appeals to the Prime Minister. Responding to opposition criticism regarding the use of "Union Territory of Jammu CONTD ON PAGE 9

CM urges PHE daily wagers to end protest JAMMU: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Tuesday called

on protesting PHE daily wagers in Jammu to end their agitation, assuring them that the government has already constituted a high-level committee to devise a roadmap for their regularization.

Responding to demands from opposition BJP members for a government statement on the issue, the Chief Minister reaf-■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Creation, up-gradation of courts come from HC: CM JAMMU: The Chief Minister, Omar Abdullah on Tuesday

said that creation and up-gradation of courts is not in his jurisdiction, as same is decided by the High Court.

The Chief Minister was replying to a question raised by Vijay Kumar in the Legislative Assembly. He informed the House that recommendations with regard to creation and upgradation come from the High Court which government implements. At present, no ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

promote our cultural heritage: LG



LG Manoj Sinha speaking at the J&K Cultural festival organised by Shri Kailakh Jyotisl Sansthan in Jammu on Tuesday.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday attended the 'J&K Cultural Festival' organised by Shri Kailakh Jyotish & Vedic Sansthan Trust at Baba Jitto Auditorium, SKUAST Jammu. The occasion was also graced by Acharya Mahamandleshwar Swami Kailashanand Giri ji Maharaj.

address, the In his Lieutenant Governor commended the efforts of Shri Kailakh Jyotish & Vedic Sansthan and everyone asso>> LG attends J&K Cultural Festival organised by Shri Kailakh Jvotish & Vedic Sansthan at Jammu

Says our ancient civilization profoundly influenced humanity through its rich cultural, intellectual, scientific and spiritual contribution; shaped idea of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam'

> It is also imperative that we devise various ways in which heritage awareness can be promoted in the

Emphasizes on preservation of Natural Heritage, **Cultural Heritage and Living Heritage**

ciated with the Trust for promoting and propagating the cultural values, and linguis-

Kashmir. ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Congress unabashedly playing appearement politics to create communal divide: Chugh

Questions Gandhi family silence on suggested Constitutional amendment to please Muslims

NEW DELHI/ CHANDIGARH: Launching a sharp attack on the Congress, BJP National General Secretary, Tarun Chugh on Tuesday came down heavily on the appeasement politics of the Congress, saying it is now going to the extent of suggesting amendment of the Constitution to please the Muslims.

Taking strong exception to the remarks made by Karnataka's Deputy Chief Minister and sen-Congress leader DK Shivakumar, declaring that Congress would even amend the Constitution to provide reservations for

said it was deplorable the way the Congress is trying to create a communal



Questioning the silence of the Gandhi Congress has become synonymous with family on the matter, Chugh demanded blind servitude towards the Gandhi famthat the Congress leadership must clari-Muslims in government tenders, Chugh fy if it will immediately sack such a per-

son or continue to shield them. In a statement, Chugh took a jibe at Congress Chief Whip in Rajya Sabha

Jairam Ramesh, who submitted breach of privilege notices against BJP leaders JP Nadda and Kiren Rijiju and jumped to defend Shivakumar's controversial statements made to appease the Gandhi family.

"First, DK Shivakumar makes unconstitutional remarks to please the Gandhi family; then

Jairam Ramesh shamelessly comes forward to defend him. ily" said Chugh, Chugh said that the

Modi government 'tossed' separatism out of J&K: Shah

■ STATE TIMES NEWS NEW DELHI: Two con-

stituents of the Hurriyat Conference have announced

of all ties with separatism, U n i o n H o m e Minister

Amit Shah said on Tuesday.

He asserted that this step will strengthen Bharat's unity, Shah said the unifying policies of the Modi government have "tossed" separatism out of Jammu and Kashmir.

ties with separatism. I welcome this step towards strengthening Bharat's unity and urge all such

announced the severing of all

groups to come forward and shed separatism once and for all, he wrote on 'X'. Shah said it was a big victory

for Prime Minister $\bar{\text{Narendra}}$ Modi's vision of building a developed, peaceful and unified Bharat.

Hurriyat Conference is a separatist amalgam in Jammu and Kashmir. Most of its constituents have been

ed with the Hurriyat have banned by the government

Over 1400 JPDCL consumers get zero bills post RTS installation under PMSGY

STATE TIMES NEWS

The operation, led by

Director General of Police

Nalin Prabhat, was launched

on Sunday evening in the

Hiranagar sector following

ty forces and terrorists

JAMMU: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, on Tuesday chaired a UT Level Coordination Committee (UTLCC) meeting of the PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana.

He emphasised upon brisk awareness generation for optimal utilisation of benefits by public being offered under this flagship scheme.

The meeting besides Principal Secretary, PDD and Commissioner Secretary, IT Department was attended by Deputy Commissioners: MD. JPDCL/KPDCL: CEO. JAKEDA; Chief Engineers



CS Atal Dulloo chairing UT Level Coordination Committee meeting of PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana.

of JPDCL/KPDCL and representatives from NHPC and other implementation agen-

The Chief Secretary urged the two DISCOMS to make their ground level staff responsible for creating awareness among the general

public. He also advised them to encourage the registered consumers to make agreements followed by payments and assist them in subsequent installation of Rooftop Solar (RTS) plants through the choosen vendors.

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

LA passes annual budget, **GST** amendment bill

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly on Tuesday passed the budget for 2025-26 with a voice vote, approving the appropriation bill to enable the government to utilise Rs 1.40 lakh crore from the Union Territory's consolidated fund for the upcoming fis-

The appropriation bill is crucial as it allows the government to withdraw funds from the consolidated fund of the Union Territory to meet its expenses for the financial year.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, who also holds ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

CJ chairs meeting to strengthen functioning of Legal Aid Clinic, Support Centres

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: J&KServices Authority under the esteemed guidance of Justice Rabstan, Tashi Justice, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and (Patron-in-Chief, Ladakh Legal Services J&KAuthority) on Tuesday convened a virtual meeting with all the Secretaries of District Legal Services Authorities (DLSAs). Medical Superintendents Government Medical College

& Hospital (GMCH) Jammu and Srinagar and Jail Superintendents alongwith Medical Officers of the jails



CJ Tashi Rabstan convening virtual meeting with all Secretaries of District Legal Services Authorities DLSAs, Medical Superintendents of GMCH Jammu and Srinagar.

across the UT of J&K and

The objective was to comprehensively review and reinforce the legal aid mechanisms to health care available

to inmates in correctional facilities across the region. During the deliberations, special emphasis was placed on the recently

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Tag BPL households; name, shame fraudi ulent and fake beneficiaries



The term Below Poverty Line (BPL) has become one of the most misused, if not outright abused, classifications in welfare distribution. It often serves as a shield

for unscrupulous individuals and families, who manipulate the system to unfairly claim benefits meant for the truly needy. Who really qualifies as a BPL individual or family? Certainly not those living in lavish homes or driving luxury cars. If such individuals manage to find their way onto BPL lists, it is not just a case of systemic failure but betrayal of genuine beneficiaries. Such families must be identified, named, and

shamed publicly. The Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families, a subset of BPL families, specifically the poorest of the poor, of Jammu and Kashmir are all set to get 200 units free power, a promise though made for all in the Union Territory by the National Conference while unveiling the Manifesto for the 2024 Legislative Assembly elections on August 19, 2024.. This is obviously antagonizing the people, who were promised the moon but left with nothing after formation of the new government after gubernatorial rule of five years. It always happens; political parties making lavish promises with a caveat of not keeping these. This pattern is all too familiar in politics-grand promises during campaigns, only to be selectively implemented or conveniently forgotten once power is

In the latest version of parliamentary democracy, the benefits of various welfare schemes are generally extended to BPL families to 'ease the burden on vulnerable households. However, given that public funds are at stake, it becomes crucial to ensure transparency and accountability in

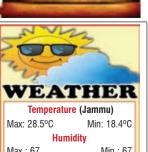
the entire process-from verification to distribution. When taxpayer money funds welfare measures, every rupee must reach households that genuinely need help. Past instances have revealed that politically connected or influential individuals have sometimes manipulated the system to secure inclusion on the BPL lists. There have been experiences in Jammu and Kashmir and across India where politically connected or influential individuals have often manipulated the system to be classified as BPL, thereby diverting resources away from truly needy families. To curb this malpractice, a robust verification must be a continuous process therefore, because the poor can turn rich anytime and vice versa. There is a growing call to publicly expose fake BPL beneficiaries to deter fraudulent claims. To ensure that benefits of welfare

schemes reach genuine families, it is important to mark their homes or issue standardized certificates. This method

would ensure that only those who truly qualify receive benefits. Tags on houses will empower the neighbors, who often have a clear understanding of local socioeconomic conditions, to help verify the authenticity of each household, eventually leading to breaking the nexus besides putting brakes on manipulation and undue influence. There is a growing call for public exposure of fake BPL families. Implementing such measures will also lead to publicly naming and shaming those who fraudulently claim BPL status. This can act as a strong deterrent. Releasing the names and addresses of the BPL families will also provide general masses an opportunity to pinpoint the discrepancies. Such exposure would not only shame the culprits but also help prevent recurrence. Once done so, strict financial and legal penalties should be levied against those found guilty of fraud. This punitive approach can safeguard public funds and discourage manipulation. Equally impor-

tant is holding verifying agencies account able. If agencies responsible for the certi fication process fail to maintain rigorous standards, they too should face actions Such measures will help break any exist ing nexus that may allow undue political or social influence to interfere with the welfare system, thereby ensuring that ben efits reach only those who deserve them This dual accountability-both of benefici aries and the institutions meant to verify them-is vital to restore trust in the welfare

By implementing reforms, the Jammu and Kashmir Government can restore public trust and ensure that welfar measures serve as an effective lifeline for those who need them most. There is no scope for unethical practices to flare up the numbers as this will not only deprive the genuine families from the assistance they need but also fleece the taxpayers, who remain always on the receiving end.



SEHR TIME: 05:12 (MARCH 27)

06:53 (MARCH 26)

Max: 67 Max: 19.2°C Max: 65 Min: 46

Sunset: 18:45 Hours

Sunrise: 06:28 Hours