

03 With J&K Budget Session starting 3rd March, people wishfully hope Omar to deliver Manifesto Promises

03 Shantmanu inaugurates JKSCERT Jammu Division's five-day Training Programme on Inclusive Education

10 Shreyas fifty, Varun's fifer help India beat NZ by 44 runs; Australia await in semifinals

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Budget session to begin today with LG's address Omar chairs meeting of alliance partners ahead of budget session

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: As Jammu and Kashmir is preparing for the first budget session in seven years, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Sunday chaired a joint meeting of the alliance partners here and discussed various issues for the smooth functioning of the house.

The 40-day budget session, having a total of 22 sittings, is scheduled to start on March 3 with the address of Lt Governor.

This will be the first budget of the government after it assumed power in October last year. Abdullah, who is set to present the budget on March 7, had held the charge of home and General Administrative Department among others during his previous stint as the chief minister in the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir from 2009 to 2014.

The previous five budgets



Cabinet meeting today to discuss budget
JAMMU: The Cabinet headed by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah is likely to meet on Tuesday in Jammu to discuss the budget of J&K Union Territory. Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, who is also minister in-charge of the Finance department, shall present the J&K UT's budget in the Assembly on March 7.

were presented and passed by the parliament in the absence of the legislative assembly in J&K, while the then governor Satya Pal Malik led the state adminis-

trative council to pass the budget for 2019-2020 following the fall of the PDP-BJP government in June 2018.

The joint meeting, attended by Congress legislative party leader G A Mir and CPI(M) MLA M Y Tarigami among others, took place shortly after Abdullah presided over a separate legislature party meeting of the National Conference at his official residence here.

The Congress legislature party also met separately at Residency Road party headquarters before Mir joined the meeting convened by Abdullah.

National Conference President Farooq Abdullah also attended the joint meeting.

"The budget session is happening after a long time and the people have high hopes with this government. We all have a responsibility to

Chugh demands CBI probe in AAP MLA's role in truck unions 'Development of Muktsar top priority of BJP'

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
CHANDIGARH: BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh on Sunday demanded a CBI investigation into the suicide attempt by truck union leader and the role of an AAP MLA in the entire incident.

Chugh said the incident has once again exposed the alleged corrupt practices of the AAP MLAs in Punjab.

While demanding that a case of abetment to suicide attempt be registered against the AAP MLA, Chugh regretted that

the Punjab police has so far failed to take action in the case. Talking to media persons,



Chugh said the Bhagwant Mann government has dismally failed to protect the interests of farmers in the state. Citing

example of Haryana where MSP is given to two dozen crops, in Punjab the AAP government has failed to keep any of the promises made before the elections. The Bhagwant Mann government is only paying lip service to farmers and cheating the entire state on the issue.

Chugh assured people of Muktsar that all development projects of health and rail would be soon fulfilled. He said very soon he would make the Muktsar delegations meet the Union ministers for it.

LoP calls on LG

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Sunil Sharma, Leader of Opposition (LoP) in J&K Legislative Assembly on Sunday called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and discussed various important matters pertaining to the forthcoming Budget Session of the Assembly which will commence from Monday, 3rd March, 2025.

Rusted anti-tank mine found

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SAMBHA/JAMMU: A rusted anti-tank mine was found and subsequently destroyed in a controlled explosion by the bomb disposal squad

Duplication of voter card numbers: EC to update system

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: Amid reports flagging issuance of identical voter card numbers to electors in two different states, the Election Commission on Sunday said it will rectify the issue and also update its technology-driven platform.

The poll authority also asserted that duplicate numbers do not necessarily imply fake voters.

It said while the elector photo identity card (EPIC) numbers of some of the

If India's partition was historic blunder, PoJK was Nehruvian blunder: Dr Jitendra

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: "If India's partition was a historic blunder, PoJK was a Nehruvian blunder".

This was stated here by Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh while addressing, as chief guest, the "Sankalp Divas" seminar organised by JK People's Forum and JK Study Centre commemorating the 1994 Parliamentary resolution on PoJK.

In a thought-provoking lecture, Dr. Jitendra said, the biggest contradiction of the partition of the Indian sub-continent was that the common citizens of India, includ-



Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh addressing at the "Sankalp Divas" on PoJK at New Delhi.

ing the common Muslim citizens, were opposed to it, but it was forced on the people just because of the personal political ambition of two individuals, namely Jawaharlal Nehru and Moh

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ROZA TIMING

SEHR TIME: 05:36 (MARCH 04)
IFTAAR TIME: 06:42 (MARCH 03)

WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 24.6°C Min: 9.8°C

Humidity
Max: 83 Min: 40

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 14.5°C Min: 2.3°C

Humidity
Max: 75 Min: 44

Sunset : 18:28 Hours
Sunrise : 06:57 Hours

'We Must Be Alarmed': Dhankhar expresses concern about 'orchestrated conversions'



■ STATE TIMES NEWS
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar on Sunday expressed concern over the "orchestrated, financially backed misadventures aimed at effecting conversions" taking place in the country "to secure prowess" and urged everyone to remain vigilant in thwarting them. Delivering the 4th P Parameswaran Memorial Lecture, organised by the Bharatheeya Vichara Kendra, Dhankhar stated that demographic evolution should be

organic and natural. However, if inorganic variations occur, "then we must be alarmed."

"Demography matters. It should not be confused with majoritarianism. We cannot have a society divided into two camps. Demographic evolution must be organic, natural, and harmonious. Only then can it reflect unity in diversity."

"But if demographic variations are brought about like a virtual earthquake, there is cause for concern. If inorganic demographic shifts occur with the intent of increasing a particular demographic component to secure prowess, then we must be alarmed. This is happening. This is noticeably happening," he claimed. The Vice President further alleged that conversions were being carried out through various methods, including "allurements, temptations, reaching out to the needy and vulnerable, providing support, and then subtly suggesting a change of religion." He emphasised that exploiting people's pain, difficulties, or needs as a means to pull them toward conversion was "intolerable."

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Properties of 3 PoK-based terrorists attached

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
POONCH: Jammu and Kashmir Police on Sunday attached 14.8 kanals of land, valued at over Rs 28 lakh, belonging to three terrorists in Poonch district of Jammu and Kashmir, an official said.

The terrorists are presently operating from Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) and the attachment of their properties was part of the efforts to dismantle the terror ecosystem in the Union Territory, he said.

The official said Najab Din and Mohd Latif of village Kirni and Mohd Bashir alias "Tikka Khan" of Qasba had earlier fled across the

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Modi Govt unsparing in punishing drug traffickers: Amit Shah

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday said the Modi government is unsparing in punishing drug traffickers who drag the youth into the dark abyss of addiction for the greed of money.

In a post on X, Shah said under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the government pledges to continue combating the drug menace with ruthless and meticulous investigations to build a "drug-free Bharat".

He said, as a result of a

foolproof investigation with a "bottom to top" and "top to bottom" strategy, 29 drug traffickers have been convicted by courts in 12 different cases across India.

This success is a testament to the "bottom to top" and "top to bottom" approach



adopted by the government, an official release said.

In pursuit of Modi government's zero-tolerance policy against drugs, the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) has achieved this significant success, it said.

The details of 12 cases include the seizure of 23.859 kg of charas at the Sabarmati Railway Station in Gujarat's Ahmedabad in 2019, where three people were arrested and sentenced to 14 years in jail. In July 2022, the NCB in

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Modi offers prayers at Somnath temple

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
GIR SOMNATH: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday offered prayers at the revered Somnath temple in Gujarat's Gir Somnath district on the second day of his three-day visit to his home state.



PM Narendra Modi performing Pooja at Somnath Mandir in Gujarat on Sunday.

Modi performed darshan and prayed at the Shiva shrine, the first of the 12 jyotirlingas, located in Prabhas Patan after visiting Vantara, an animal rescue, conservation and rehabilitation centre, in Jamnagar district during the day.

After the temple visit, Modi left for Sasan, the headquarters of Gir Wildlife

Sanctuary, which is the only abode of the Asiatic

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Two minor girls found dead in Samba; boy dies in road accident

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Two minor girls were found dead in a trench filled with rain water in Samba district, while a nine-year-old boy died in an accident here on Sunday, officials said.

The bodies of Asiya (10) and Tahira (9) were recovered from the ditch at Lower Birpur in Bari Brahmna area of Samba, they said.

The officials said the girls, belonging to nomadic families from south

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Holiday

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