

# Ramadan Mubarak to all our readers

E BOLD VOICE OF J&K Vol. 30 Issue 61 • Jammu • Monday • March 3, 2025 • Pages 12+4=16 • ₹ 5.00

Regd. No. L-29/JK-346/2025-27 With J&K Budget Session starting 3rd March, people

wishfully hope Omar to deliver Manifesto Promises

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

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

Air surcharge 50 paisa for Leh

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

# Budget session to begin today with LG's address

# Omar chairs meeting of alliance partners ahead of budget session

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

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

assembly in J&K, while the

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

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### LoP calls on LG ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Sunil Sharma, Leader of Opposition (LoP) in J&K Legislative Assembly 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

### Rusted anti-tank mine found

**STATE TIMES NEWS** 

March, 2025.

SAMBA/JAMMU: A rusted anti-tank mine was found and subsequently destroyed in a controlled explosion by the bomb disposal squad

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by the parliament in the absence of the legislative then governor Satya Pal

example of Haryana where

MSP is given to two dozen

crops, in Punjab the AAP gov-

ernment 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

Chugh assured people of Muktsar that all develop-

ment projects of health

and rail would be soon ful-

filled. He said very soon he

would make the Muktsar dele-

gations meet the Union minis-

on the issue.

### 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

The terrorists are presently operating from Pakistanoccupied 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

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

### Modi Govt unsparing in punishing drug traffickers: Amit Shah adopted by the government, foolproof investigation with a

### **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".

traffickers have been convict-

cases across India.

"bottom to top" and "top to

bottom" strategy, 29 drug

Narcotics 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, ed by courts in 12 different where three people were

arrested and sentenced to 14 This success is a testament years in jail. In July 2022, the NCB in to the "bottom to top" and ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

an official release said.

In pursuit of Modi govern-

ment's zero-tolerance policy

against drugs,

Two minor girls found

dead in Samba; boy

dies in road accident

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 acci-

dent here on Sunday, offi-

The bodies of Asiya (10)

and Tahira (9) were recov-

ered from the ditch at Lower

Birpur in Bari Brahmana

The officials said the girls.

area of Samba, they said.

STATE TIMES NEWS

# 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.

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



in Gujarat on Sunday.

After the temple visit, Modi

left for Sasan, the headquar-

Sanctuary, which is the only

belonging to nomadic fami-■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

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

the Punjab police has so far

failed to take action in the case.

Talking to media persons,

### **STATE TIMES NEWS**

CHANDIGARH: National General Secretary Tarun Chugh on Sunday demanded a CBI investi gation into the suicide attempt by truck union leader and the role of an AAP MLA in the entire

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

### **Duplication of voter** $car\bar{d}$ numbers: $EC\ to$ update system STATE TIMEŠ NEWS

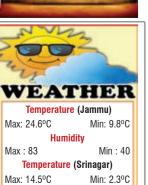
NEW DELHI: Amid reports flagging issuance of identical voter card numbers to electors in two different states, the Election Commission on Sunday said it will rectify the issue and also update its technology-driven platform.

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

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Sunset: 18:28 Hours

Sunrise: 06:57 Hours

Max: 75

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

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

Chugh said the Bhagwant

Mann government has dismal-

ly failed to protect the interests

This was stated here by Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh while addressing, as chief guest, the "Sankalp Diwas" 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 subcontinent was that the com-



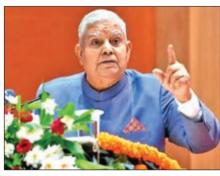
Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh addressing at the "Sankalp Diwas" on PoJK at New Delhi.

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

Ali Jinnah, which led to one of the greatest exchanges of population between the two countries and massive riots. particularly in Punjab and Bengal.

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



STATE TIMES NEWS

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: 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 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." ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

