

03 India's Bioeconomy grew 10 times in 10 years, J&K still underexplored: Dr Jitendra

05 DB strictly bans commercial activities in and around Zero Point of Zojila Pass

10 J&K thrashes formidable Punjab to lift 15th NZ Softball C'ship title

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

Annual Budget to be presented today J&K economy expected to grow at 7.06 pc in 2024-25: Economic Survey

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The economy of Jammu and Kashmir is projected to grow at 7.06 per cent in real terms, while the nominal Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) is expected to rise by 11.19 per cent in 2024-25, according to the Economic Survey Report (ESR) for 2025.

The report said that J&K has shown significant progress, with the unemployment rate declining to 6.1 per cent in 2023-24 from 6.7 per cent in 2019-20.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, who also serves as the Finance Minister, tabled the report in the J&K Assembly on Thursday.

The report provides an in-depth analysis of the region's economic performance, development progress, and future outlook, offering valuable insights for policymakers and stakeholders.

"The real GSDP of J&K is expected to grow at 7.06 per cent, and the nominal GSDP is expected to grow at 11.19 per cent in 2024-25," the report stated.

"The size of J&K's economy (Nominal Gross State Domestic Product) is estimated to be approximately Rs 2.65 lakh crore, and its real GSDP is estimated to be about Rs 1.45 lakh crore during 2024-25," it said.

The report stated that J&K is estimated to achieve a compound annual growth rate of 4.89 per cent in its real GSDP from 2019-20 to 2024-25, compared to the 4.81 per cent growth rate recorded from 2011-12 to 2019-20.

The report further stated that J&K's per capita annual income (per capita NSDP) at current prices is estimated to reach Rs 1,54,703 in 2024-25 (advance estimates), com-

pared to the national per capita income of Rs 2,00,162 in 2024-25.

As per the report, the per capita income of J&K at current prices is anticipated to grow at 10.6 per cent in 2024-25.

"The comparative analysis of J&K's per capita income with that of northern states from 2019-20 to 2023-24 indicates that J&K's per capita income grew at a compound annual growth rate of 8.3 per cent, which is higher than Punjab (6.22 per cent), Delhi (6.74 per cent), and Himachal Pradesh (6 per cent)," it said.

The report further maintained that J&K is actively contributing to the national GDP (0.8 per cent) in proportion to its population (0.98 per cent).

"The primary, secondary, and tertiary sectors are expected to contribute 20.00

per cent, 18.30 per cent, and 61.70 per cent, respectively, to the Gross State Value Added during 2024-25," it said.

It stated that inflation in J&K increased to 4.5 per cent in 2024 from 4.3 per cent in 2023, showing an overall rise of 0.2 percentage points. In contrast, at the all-India level, inflation decreased to 5 per cent from 5.7 per cent during the same period. Inflation in J&K hovered between 3.8 per cent and 4.5 per cent from 2019 to 2024, compared to national figures of 3.7 per cent to 5.0 per cent during the same period.

The report further stated that a revenue of Rs 15,737.80 crore was realised in the first nine months of the financial year 2024-25, which is 77 per cent of the Rs 20,333.55 crore

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Nobody will be allowed to play with members' sentiments: Speaker

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Assembly Speaker Abdul Rahim Rather on Thursday said that nobody will be allowed to play with the sentiments of any member in the House.

The Speaker made the remarks after BJP MLA Sham Lal Sharma objected to the use of "unparliamentary language" in the House by Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) legislator Mehraj Malik against opposition members.

Participating in a discussion on the Motion of Thanks on

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SC Collegium recommends appointment of 3 Addl Judges as Permanent Judges for J&K HC

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Supreme Court Collegium has approved the appointment of three Additional Judges as Permanent Judges of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. The Collegium, in its meeting held on Wednesday, passed a resolution confirming the elevation of Justice Wasim Sadiq Nargal, Justice Rajesh Sekhri and Justice Mohammad Yousuf Wani.

Justice Wasim Sadiq Nargal's appointment as an Additional Judge was notified on June 1, 2022. Prior



Justice W S Nargal Justice Rajesh Sekhri Justice Mohd Yousuf Wani

to his elevation, Justice Nargal had a distinguished career as a senior advocate, known for his expertise and commitment to justice.

Justice Rajesh Sekhri was sworn in as an Additional Judge of the High Court on

July 29, 2024. Before his elevation, he served with distinction in various judicial capacities, demonstrating profound legal acumen and dedication to the rule of law. Similarly,

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LG inaugurates pilgrims-centric facilities at Darshani Deodi, Banganga, Adhkuwari

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha chaired the 74th Meeting of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB), at Raj Bhawan, on Thursday.

The meeting was attended by Members of the Board- Mahamandleshwar Swami Vishveshvaranand Giriji Maharaj, Baleswar Rai, Dr Ashok Bhan, Dr Neelam Sareen, K.K Sharma, Suresh Kumar Sharma and Raghu K. Mehta.

Dr Mandeep K. Bhandari,



LG Manoj Sinha chairing 74th Meeting of SMVDSB at Raj Bhawan on Thursday.

Principal Secretary to Executive Officer, SMVDSB under the chairmanship of Lieutenant Governor Anshul Garg, and The Board, which met

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CM reaffirms commitment to fulfill all his promises in 5 years

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Thursday promised to fulfill the manifesto that his party has committed to the people of Jammu and Kashmir during his five-year tenure.

"I would like to say something about our manifesto. Why did we come to the manifesto? We prepared the manifesto with lot of thought. It is our promise to the people of Jammu and Kashmir. When we presented this manifesto to the people, we said, we are asking for a five-year term. During this five-year term, we will do all these



CM Omar Abdullah replying to the motion of thanks on LG's address in J&K Legislative Assembly.

things and present ourselves to you. Today, I would like to tell the people of Jammu and Kashmir that whatever we have said in our manifesto, in

the coming five years, we will do all these things," the Chief Minister stated. Omar Abdullah was replying to

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Business rules for J&K Govt framed, sent to LG for approval: Omar

JAMMU: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Thursday said business rules for the government have been framed and sent to the Lieutenant Governor for approval to facilitate smooth governance without confusion.

"Until we receive statehood, it is necessary to establish business rules for clarity. It took some time, but yesterday at 8 pm, we convened a cabinet

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Appointment of Shazia Tabassum as Member Secy, LSA; Amit Gupta as Chairman, Sales Tax Tribunal approved

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: As recommended by the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, sanction has been accorded vide order number 2815 - JK(LD) of 2025 dated March 6, 2025.

to the appointment on deputation of Shazia Tabassum, District Judge as Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority; and Amit Kumar Gupta,

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Chugh defends Maharaja Hari Singh, slams NC for distorting history

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: BJP National General Secretary and Jammu & Kashmir in-charge, Tarun Chugh, strongly condemned remarks made against Maharaja Hari Singh, calling them an insult to the people of Jammu & Kashmir.

He criticized former Prime Minister Pt. Nehru and Sheikh Abdullah for creating difficulties for the former ruler and reaffirmed that Maharaja Hari Singh was a visionary leader who played a crucial role in integrating J&K with India.

Chugh accused political rivals of distorting history for political gains and



demanding that National Conference leader Omar Abdullah retract his statements.

He highlighted the Maharaja's contributions to education, healthcare, and

governance, emphasizing that his secular outlook fostered communal harmony. Calling any attempts to malign his legacy "unacceptable," Chugh reaffirmed BJP's commitment to preserving the region's historical and cultural identity.

On the broader political landscape, Chugh landed the transformation of J&K post the abrogation of Article 370, stating that the region has moved from being a "terrorism capital" to a

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Fight against drug menace, terrorism on same pedestal: DGP

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Accusing Pakistan's army and Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) of controlling narcotics smuggling through terror groups and pushing drugs into the Indian side, Jammu and Kashmir Director General of Police (DGP) Nalin Prabhat said on Thursday that the fight against drugs and terrorism will be fought "on the same pedestal".

He also called for a crack-down on public consumption of liquor in vehicles in the region.

"The fight against drugs will be on an equal pedestal as combating terrorism," Prabhat said during an interaction at the Thana Diwas programme.

The Director General of



DGP Nalin Prabhat speaking during Thana Diwas in Jammu.

Police emphasised that the drug menace is a reality and efforts to combat it are inadequate.

"No matter how much we fight, it is still inadequate. The police are fighting it. The law is fighting it. It is an organised crime network," he said while accusing agencies from Pakistan of pushing the

contraband "from our western borders".

"It is being controlled by Pakistan's army and ISI through their terror outfits to engineer smuggling into our territory... This is a challenge, and the police will continue to fight it until the end," he said.

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ROZA TIMING
SEHR TIME: 05:32 (MARCH 08)
IFTAAR TIME: 06:43 (MARCH 07)

WEATHER
Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 24.4°C Min: 8.6°C
Humidity
Max: 86 Min: 46
Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 15.8°C Min: -0.5°C
Humidity
Max: 77 Min: 33
Sunset: 18:31 Hours
Sunrise: 06:52 Hours

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