

THE BOLD VOICE OF J&K STATE Vol. 28 Issue 103 • Jammu • Saturday • April 15, 2023 • Pages 12 • ₹ 2.50

Regd. No. L-29/JK-346/22-24 High-level US delegation meets Dr Jitendra, **JU** seeks deeper bilateral cooperation

Dr Sumedha's murder case: **New SIT starts investigation**

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J&K Wrestler Babba lifts 30th Dera Kesari Dangal title

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62-day Amarnathji Yatra to commence on July 1

Offline, online registrations to start from April 17 Govt committed to ensure smooth, hassle-free pilgrimage: LG



JAMMU: The 62-day long Shri Amarnathji Yatra will commence on 1st July this year and it will culminate on 31st August 2023.

Further, the registration through online & offline modes for Shri Amarnathji Yatra will start from 17th

Lieutenant Governor Manoi Sinha while announcing the dates for holy pilgrimage and registration on Friday said the administration is committed to ensure smooth and hassle free pilgrim-

"Hassle-free pilgrimage is top priority

of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah. The administration will provide best-in-class healthcare and other essential facilities to all the visiting devotees and service providers. Telecom services will be made operational prior to the commencement of Pilgrimage. All the stakeholder departments are working in coordination to ensure facilities for lodging, power, water, security and other arrangements for the smooth conduct of Yatra," the Lt Governor said.

The Yatra would commence simultaneously from both the routes - the Pahalgam track in Anantnag district and Baltal in Ganderbal district.

The Lt Governor also directed the officials to ensure high levels of cleanliness and to take necessary intervention for sanitation and waste management.

Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board (SASB) will also enable live telecast of morning and evening Aarti (Prayers) for devotees across the globe. Shri Amarnathji Yatra's App has been made available on the Google play store to get



Baisakhi celebrated with traditional fervour in J&K

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU/SRINAGAR: Baisakhi, marking the beginning of the Sikh New Year, was on Friday celebrated with religious fervour and gaiety in Jammu and Kashmir as devotees thronged different gurudwaras to offer prayers.

The 324th Sajana Divas of Khalsa Panth was celebrated at Gurudwara Guru Nanak Dev Ji at Chand Nagar

Jammu with religious fervour and gaiety. The function was organized

by District Gurudwara Parbhandak Committee Jammu, in which devotees from different parts of Jammu including women and Children participated in large number to pay obeisance and seek blessings of Guru Sahib.

Prominent Sikh preachers and Ragi Jathas from within and outside the State delivered sermons and recited

Gurbani Kirtan. Principal Chatranjit Singh of Sikh Missionary College Anandpur Sahib threw light on the significance of Khalsa Sajan Divas and the circumstances leading to the creation of Khalsa Panth.

Bhai Gurmeet Singh and Bhai Gian Singh Hazuri Ragi Jathas of

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India progressing, but northern, western borders not so safe that we can sleep peacefully: RSS Chief

STATE TIMES NEWS

AHMEDABAD: India was progressing economically but its western and northern bor-



ders were not so safe that people can sleep peacefully, Swayamsevak Sangh chief Mohan Bhagwat

11 arrested, 13 vehicles

seized for illegal extraction

& transportation of minerals STATE TIMES NEWS

BUDGAM/AWANTIPORA:

Acting tough against the

persons involved in illegal

extraction and transporta-

tion of minerals. Police have

arrested 11 persons and

seized 13 vehicles in

As per the details, a party

of Police Station Budgam

during patrolling at Mirgund

Crossing arrested 4 persons

and seized 6 vehicles (tip-

pers) involved in illegal

extraction and transporta-

tion of minerals. The arrest-

ed drivers were identified as

Mohd Avoub Dar son of

Ghulam Hassan Dar &

Nazir Ahmad Dar son of

Ghulam Ahmad Dar residents of Patwaw Budgam,

Adil Ahmad Lone son of

Bashir Ahmad Lone resident

of Huroo Budgam & Firdous

Ahmad Pal son of Bashir

Ahmad Pal resident of

In Awantipora, a Police

party headed by SHO Police

Station Awantipora under

the supervision of SDPO

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Sheikhpora Budgam.

Awantipora Mumtaz

Budgam & Awantipora.

Though he did not take names, it was apparently a reference to Pakistan, with India shares a border

> on the west, and "Our country is today progressing. It is also gaining reputa-

tion, heft and The wealth. spread of patriotism among the people is evident and that is the reason we have got lead-

ership (presidency) of the

G20, However, there

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

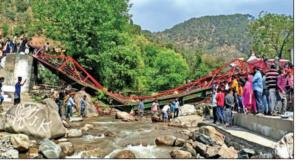
Girl dies, 61 injured as footbridge collapses during Baisakhi celebrations at Udhampur were taken to GMC Hospital

STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: A nine-yearold girl died and 61 people, including several children, were injured on Friday when a footbridge collapsed due to overloading as people swarmed it during Baisakhi celebrations in Jammu and Kashmir's Udhampur district, officials said.

The government has ordered a probe led by Commissioner Deputy Udhampur into the collapse.

The incident took place at Beni Sangam in Bain village of Chenani block during Baisakhi celebrations, they



Rescue operation going on at accident site in Chenani.

Udhampur Deputy Commissioner Krittika Jyotsna, who visited the hospital to meet the injured, told reporters that the accident took place late in the afternoon when the people were celebrating Baisakhi.

"Sixty-two people were injured. Out of them, 35 were admitted to district hospital. The critically injured

in Jammu", she said. The other injured have been admitted to Chenani

hospital, the officials said. "One girl has died in the hospital," Divisional

Commissioner Ramesh Kumar told PTI. According to sources, the deceased has been identified

as Anu Kumari. People in large numbers were on the bridge when it

collapsed, the officials said. The bridge collapsed due to overloading as large number of people were on it at the

time of the accident,

J&K reports 151 fresh COVID-19 cases, one death Jammu division and 385 in

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir on Friday reported 151 fresh COVID positive cases, taking the

number of infected persons to 480744 however, one fatality reported due to the virus in Jammu division in the last 24 hours, officials

Of the new cases, 57 were from the Jammu division and 94 from the Kashmir division of the union territory, Officials said.

There are 686 active cases

Kashmir division while the number of recoveries so far has been 475271, officials



Moreover, 92 Covid-19 patients recovered during the time, 36 from Jammu Division and 56 from Kashmir, they said.

Over 85,000 people trained as 'first respondents' on fire safety in J&K

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: More than 85,000 people have been trained as 'first respondents' about the fire safety, prevention and precautionary measures by the fire and emergency services department in Jammu and Kashmir, officials said on Friday.

Total 640 schools, 300 hospitals and medical institutes were covered by the department under the department's awareness programme, they

"We are spreading awareness among masses to prevent fire incidents and are focussing on first fire responders," Alok Kumar, director at the fire and emergency service department, told

A first responder is a person with specialised training who is among the first to arrive and provide assistance during emergency situations.

"More than 300 hospitals and medical institutions were covered under the awareness programme and more than 15,000 of their employees were trained," he said, adding that in total 70,000 people were trained during the awareness drive.

There are 176 fire stations in the union territory, the

official informed.

"As many as 5,813 fire incidents took place in 2022. This year, over 1,000 such incidents have taken place. The department is aiming to decrease the number of fire incidents through this programme", the director said.

The administration is also strengthening the fire service department by upgrading its equipment and machines, he "Recently we have inducted

a turn table ladder (TTL). It had been brought from Finland and can access 14storey buildings,

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mechanism for individuals, Govt **STATE TIMES NEWS**

NEW DELHI: Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud batted on Friday for adopting and encouraging mediation. including online mediation, as a mode of dispute resolution other than litigation, saying it would reduce the courts' caseload and has the potential to portray justice as collaborative rather than adversarial.

The CJI said it would especially come to the aid of women from marginalised communities as mediation makes law less "intimidating" and less "alienating". He added that when the government, which is the biggest litigator but must "adopt the robes of a friend", opts for this process, a message is sent that the

government itself is not an adversarial

CJI bats for mediation as dispute resolution

Justice Chandrachud was speaking at the inaugural session of a national conference on "Mediation at the Dawn of Golden Age", organised by Samadhan at

Samadhan or the Delhi High Court Mediation and Conciliation Centre was established in May 2006 to provide mediation as an appropriate method of alternate dispute resolution.

During the session, the high court signed a memorandum of understanding with the Uttarakhand High Court in relation to expanding the mediation process in the hill state.

"We stand at the dawn of the golden age of mediation. Mediation should not be considered as just an alternate dispute resolution mechanism," the СЛ

"Mediation offers citizens a forum to not only determine the outcomes of their disputes, but also determine the criteria and standards by which those

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We work with 'Seva Bhaav'; oppn 'neglected' NE: Modi

STATE TIMES NEWS

GUWAHATI: Minister Narendra Modi on Friday asserted that his government had worked hard to bring the northeast into the national mainstream and accused the opposition of "neglecting" the region and being "credit hungry".

At a series of functions here, Modi claimed that in the last nine years since his government came to power, the definition of connectivity had been changed bringing the northeast nearer to the rest of the country.

In what many analysts saw as an energetic early start to next year's general elections, the prime minister made attacking speeches and attended programs and cultural galas, where among other things he inaugurated a slew of medical, railway

and other infrastructure projects, besides speaking at the platinum jubilee celebrations of Gauhati High Court

Modi accompanied by his trusted pointsman for the northeast Assam chief minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, also witnessed a mega-Bihu dance performance where more than 11,000 dancers and drummers performed at the Indira Gandhi Athletic Stadium, which has made it to the Guinness World

Lashing out at the opposition, Modi asserted early in the day, "We make our policies on the basis of countrymen first ... (but) those who came before us were credit hungry and credit hungry people destroy the nation."

He added, "We work with

'Seva Bhaav' (spirit of serv-

ice) and 'samarpan' (dedication) for the people" The prime minister claimed

that the Northeast had "suffered for decades under family-controlled politics, regionalism, corruption and insecurity" during which development was not possible and the region paid a "huge price" He also stressed that his

government had worked hard

ment in social and physical infrastructure Northeast over the last 9 years

"The Northeast was distant for earlier governments...we have served with dedication to bring it near," the prime minister said. "In the last nine years, we

to ensure dramatic improve-

have changed the old definition of connectivity. It's now

four dimensional -- physical, digital, social and cultural connectivity," he said.

He said that in the past few years, youth from the region "have left violence and moved on the path to peace." "The atmosphere of mis-

trust is disappearing from the North East, the distance between hearts is disappearing We need to move further closer," Modi added.

Besides dedicating Northeast's first AIIMS at Guwahati, the prime minister also virtually inaugurated three medical colleges at Nalbari, Nagaon and Kokrajhar.

The 500-bed tertiary care teaching hospitals with 24 undergraduate departments in the three medical colleges will start with 100 annual MBBS student intake, taking the total MBBS student

He also laid the foundation of the Rs 546 crore Assam Healthcare Advanced Innovation Institute (AAHII), a joint initiative of the state government and IIT Guwahati.

AAHII aims to promote inventions and innovations in medicine and healthcare, nurturing multidisciplinary research and development in frontier areas of medicine by marrying engineering with healthcare.

The prime minister also launched the distribution of 1.1 crore Ayushman cards to beneficiaries who will be able to avail cashless healthcare medical treatment benefits up to Rs five lakh with these cards. Later in the day, while speaking at the concluding ceremony of the

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My plan is to make Ladakh 'Corruption Free': LG Mishra

STATE TIMES NEWS LEH: The Lieutenant

Brigadier (Dr) BD Mishra (Retd) met and interacted with the Councillors of LAHDC Leh, at Raj Niwas. HLG highlighted the importance of probity and promptness while working for the development of Ladakh for the overall benefit of the people. He informed about the meeting with ward members of Municipal Committee Leh and his plans to conduct cleanliness drives in all wards of Leh town and requested the Councillors to

do the same in their con-

stituencies. He highlighted

the need to sensitise the

neighbours and children

about maintaining ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

WEATHER Max: 37.0°C Max: 50 Max: 28.2°C Min: 21 Max: 59

Sunset: 19:00 Hours

Sunrise: 06:05 Hours