

**BLUE MOON**  
Banquets & Conventions  
THE BANQUET WITH A DIFFERENCE

National Highway, Near Thandi Khul, Jammu  
Contact: 9866035550, 9866035551

# STATE TIMES

THE BOLD VOICE OF J&K

RNI No. : 66908/96  
Regd. No. L-29/JK-346/2025-27

Vol. 30 Issue 95 • Jammu • Monday • April 7, 2025 • Pages 12 • ₹ 5.00  
Air surcharge 50 paise for Leh

**J.K. PUBLIC SCHOOL**  
KUNJAWALI, JAMMU  
The School with a Difference

**SOWING SKILLS**  
SHAPING INDIA

**03** Dr Jitendra lauds CSIR institutes' pivotal role in drug discovery, genetic diagnostics

**03** Advancing Heart Health-Role of Novel Risk Marker, screening tests in predicting cardiovascular diseases: Dr Sushil

**10** Junior J&K Wrestling meet on April 10

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

## Amit Shah arrives in Jammu on 3-day tour of J&K, holds meeting with BJP MLAs

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Union Home Minister Amit Shah, who reached here Sunday evening to commence his three-day tour of Jammu and Kashmir, held a closed-door meeting with BJP MLAs and office-bearers.

This is Shah's first visit to the Union Territory after the formation of Chief Minister Omar Abdullah-led National Conference government in the Union Territory in October last year. The visit also holds significance in the wake of a massive ongoing anti-terrorist operation in Kathua district.

Shah reached Jammu around 6.50 pm and was received at the technical airport by Lt Governor Manoj Sinha, Union Minister Jitendra Singh, and other BJP leaders including J&K unit president Sat Sharma and party's National General



Home Minister Amit Shah being received by LG Manoj Sinha on his arrival.

Amit Shah chairing a meeting at BJP headquarters in Jammu on Sunday.

Secretary in-charge of J&K Tarun Chugh. Former J&K BJP chief Ravinder Raina and former deputy chief ministers Kavinder Gupta and Nirmal Singh were also present.

Soon after his arrival, Shah was escorted to Raj Bhavan and later visited the BJP headquarters at

Trikuta Nagar here to chair a meeting of the party MLAs and other office bearers, the officials said.

The meeting, which started around 8.30 pm, continued for nearly two hours.

The Union home minister will visit a forward post along the India-Pakistan border and review the security

situation and development initiatives during his tour.

The visit of Shah to the BJP headquarters coincided with the party's foundation day which was celebrated by BJP activists and leaders at the headquarters with great fervour earlier during the day.

Police and security forces have been put on high alert in view of Shah's visit, the officials said.

On Monday, Shah will visit the BSF Border Outpost Vinay in Kathua and assess the ground situation there.

A massive search operation has been underway in

the forested area of Kathua district since March 23 after police and other security forces intercepted a group of five terrorists who had infiltrated from across the International Border in Hiranagar sector. Four policemen were martyred and two terrorists killed in a fierce two-day long gun-

fight in the district on March 27.

Shah is also scheduled to meet the family members of the martyrs of the Jammu and Kashmir Police at the Raj Bhavan in Jammu on Monday and present appointment letters to some of them selected on compassionate grounds.

On April 8, Shah will first take stock of various development programmes in the UT at a meeting to be held at the Raj Bhavan in Srinagar. Subsequently, he will attend another meeting at the Raj Bhavan in Srinagar where the security situation in J&K will be reviewed, the officials said.

Earlier in the day, J&K BJP president Sharma hoisted the party flag at the party headquarters in presence of senior leaders including MP Jugal Kishore Sharma, Kavinder Gupta, and Leader of Opposition in J&K Assembly Sunil Sharma.

Senior party leaders also hoisted party flags at all organizational district headquarters, BJP offices, and at the rooftops of the houses of the BJP activists across Jammu and Kashmir to mark the party's 46th foundation day, a party spokesperson said.

### India doing better than other countries after US tariffs: NSE CEO

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

KATRA: Asserting that a situation of confusion persists in the world after the recent imposition of reciprocal tariffs by the US, NSE Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer Ashish Kumar Chauhan on Sunday said India is doing much better than other countries.

He said a clear situation is expected to emerge within the next one or two weeks as there will be negotiations and the duty structure will be stabilized.

Talking with PTI here after paying obeisance at the revered Mata Vaishno Devi

Shrine atop Trikuta hills on the occasion of Ram Navami, the National Stock Exchange (NSE) chief said it seems that the Indian share market is doing much better than other countries post the US decision on reciprocal tariff.

"You must have seen the market for the last 2-3 days. America has made a decision on tax, which is applicable to every country in the world. They have also imposed new import duties for India, which is doing better than other countries," he said.

Chauhan, who met Lt Governor Manoj Sinha on reaching Jammu

CONTD ON PAGE 9

### Omar calls for celebrating craftsmanship, heritage of J&K

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Sunday said that Jammu and Kashmir has faced numerous challenges over the years but is now gradually emerging from these challenges.

He emphasized that efforts are underway to ensure the region becomes an equal stakeholder in the country's overall development.

The Chief Minister was speaking at Lok Samvardhan Parv, being held at the University of Kashmir from April 5 to 13 under the theme 'Bhagidari se Bhagyodaya'.

"Wherever support is possible and wherever proposals from our side are pending approval, I humbly request that they be considered and approved so that people of Jammu and Kashmir can ben-



CM Omar Abdullah speaking during Cultural Heritage event at Kashmir University.

efit," the Chief Minister said.

He was the Chief Guest at the event,

which was inaugurated by Union Minister for

CONTD ON PAGE 9

### Cabinet Sub-Committee on reservation rules interacts with public delegations, students

Says Govt will take viewpoint of every section of society

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

SRINAGAR: The three-member Cabinet Sub-Committee on reservation rules under the chairmanship of Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo, interacted with several public delegations and students regarding their grievances on reservation rules at SKICC here on Sunday.

Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmad Rana and Minister for Youth Services and Sports, Satish Sharma (members of Sub-

committee); Commissioner Secretary, Social Welfare Department, Sanjeev Verma; Commissioner Secretary, GAD, M Raju; Secretary Law, Achal Sethi and senior officers from General Administration department and Social Welfare department also participated in the meeting.

During the interaction, the delegations presented their view point before the Sub-committee regarding existing reservation policy.

While examining their grievances and issues regarding reservation rules, the Sub-Committee

CONTD ON PAGE 9

### SFs recover large cache of weapons

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

KUPWARA: Security forces on Sunday recovered arms and ammunition from a forest area in Kupwara district, officials said.

"In a joint search operation, police and the Army recovered a substantial cache of war-like stores in the Kandi forest belt of Kupwara," an official said.

The recoveries included a machine gun, seven hand grenades, 90 cartridges,

CONTD ON PAGE 9

### 10-year-old student killed, six hurt in fire incident at Tral

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

SRINAGAR: A 10-year-old student died and six others sustained injuries in a fire incident at Tral in Pulwama district on Sunday, officials said.

The fire broke out in Hamdan Daarul Uloom at Tral in which one boy -- Yasir Ahmad Gaggi -- died due to asphyxiation while six others were injured, they said. The officials said the injured

CONTD ON PAGE 9

**WEATHER**

Temperature (Jammu)  
Max: 35.0°C Min: 18.1°C

Humidity  
Max: 64 Min: 40

Temperature (Srinagar)  
Max: 26.2°C Min: 7.6°C

Humidity  
Max: 59 Min: 32

Sunset : 18:54 Hours  
Sunrise : 06:12 Hours

### We never compromised our ideology for power: Chugh on BJP Foundation Day



BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh along with party leaders during foundation day celebrations at Kathua.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

KATHUA/JAMMU: BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh on Sunday said the strength of the Bharatiya Janata Party lies in its unwav-

ering commitment to its ideology and its resolute belief in the spirit of nationalism.

Addressing the workers at the party office at Kathua on the occasion of the BJP

Foundation Day celebrations, Chugh said: "The BJP has never changed its ideology for the sake of votes. We are not a party driven by opportunism - we are a movement founded on principles, and we have marched forward powered by those very principles."

He highlighted that the ideological journey of the BJP, beginning with Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay's philosophy of Ekatma Manavad (Integral Humanism), has now transformed into a mass movement under Prime

CONTD ON PAGE 9

### Modi inaugurates Pamban bridge in TN

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

RAMESWARAM: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday inaugurated the Pamban bridge, India's first vertical lift sea bridge and flagged off train service linking Rameswaram island to the rest of the country. Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin skipped the event.

Modi flagged off a Coast Guard ship that sailed under the bridge and also laid foundation stone for and dedicated to the nation various rail and road projects totally worth over Rs 8,300 crore. In his address, Modi said the day marked the auspicious occasion of Ram Navami and that Lord Ram's good govern-



nance is the foundation for nation building.

He also outlined the connect Tamil Nadu had to Lord Ram by quoting Sangam era literature. On the fishermen issue vis-a-vis Sri Lanka, he said over the past decade,

more than 3,700 fishermen have been brought back from Sri Lanka, including over 600 in the past year alone.

While Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin skipped the event and upped the

CONTD ON PAGE 9

### Blessed to have 'darshan' of Ram Setu: PM

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi had a 'darshan' of the Ram Setu on his flight back from Sri Lanka to India on Sunday.

Posting a video, Modi said on X, "On the way back from Sri Lanka a short while ago, was blessed to have a Darshan of the Ram Setu. And, as a divine coincidence, it happened at the same time as the Surya Tilak was taking place in Ayodhya."

He added, "Blessed to have the Darshan of both. Prabhu Shri Ram is a uniting

CONTD ON PAGE 9

### Greater Kailash Gold Robbery Case

## From Robbery to Murder: Robbers kill confidant to conceal crime

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: In a chilling twist to the ongoing investigation into the Greater Kailash gold shop robbery, South Jammu Police has uncovered the brutal murder of a young man, by the robbers, he trusted - all to silence him and cover up their crime.

The victim, Harsh Dev Sharma, 24, son of Ashok Kumar and a resident of Jammu, was reported as missing on April 5, 2025 at Satwari Police Station. According to his father, Harsh had left home two days earlier and could not be traced despite the family's desperate search. Police launched an investigation and began technical surveillance using Harsh's mobile number shared by the family.

During analysis of Call Detail Records (CDR) and Internet Protocol Detail Records (IPDR), police discovered communication between Harsh and three individuals - Rahul Sharma, Tushar Kumar, and Bharat Bhushan - all of whom are already accused in FIR 19/2025 registered at Gangwal Police Station in connection with the robbery at Greater Kailash jewellery shop, said South



South Jammu SP Ajay Sharma along with SIT members addressing media persons on Sunday evening.

Jammu SP Ajay Sharma.

Bharat Bhushan, 22, son of Nain Sukh, resident of Lower Kanal, Bishnah, was taken into custody for questioning. During sustained interrogation, he made a shocking confession. According to Bharat, Harsh was a close friend of Sunil Sharma, one of the prime

accused in the robbery. On the day of the heist, Sunil had inadvertently shared details of the plan with Harsh, said South Jammu SP Ajay Sharma.

Following the robbery, Sunil was deliberately admitted to a drug de-addiction center in Kathua by Rahul Sharma to prevent further

contact with police and distance him from the crime. This left Harsh unable to reach him directly. Harsh then began pressuring Rahul Sharma, demanding Sunil's share in the loot and threatening to reveal their involvement to the police authorities, said SP Ajay Sharma.

Fearful that Harsh might expose them, Rahul Sharma - an advocate and son of Shashi Sharma from Lower Kanal near Gramen Bank, Bishnah - conspired with Tushar Kumar (22), son of Late Sewa Ram, and Bharat Bhushan to eliminate him, SP South Jammu said.

On the pretext of celebrating Rahul's birthday, the trio lured Harsh to the Surinsar-Mansar area, where they encouraged him to consume alcohol. Taking advantage of his intoxicated state, they murdered him in cold blood, and while returning, they buried his body in a remote location approximately eight km from Surinsar, in an attempt to destroy all evidence, said South Jammu SP Ajay Sharma.

Following this revelation, Harsh's missing report was converted into

CONTD ON PAGE 9

### Wanted gangster arrested

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

UDHAMPUR: A gangster, wanted by police in Jammu and Kashmir and neighbouring Punjab, was arrested in Udhampur district here on Sunday, officials said.

Amir Khan, a resident of Khoon village, was arrested in a well-coordinated operation, based on reliable intelligence regarding his movement from the Majalta area, a police spokesperson said.

He said the accused, wanted in numerous criminal cases including rape, drug trafficking, attempt to murder and illegal possession of weapons, attempted to evade but was overpowered and taken into custody.

Khan was wanted in at least half a dozen FIRs registered across various police stations of J-K and

CONTD ON PAGE 9