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India witnessing resurgence of cultural values: LG

STATE TIMES NEWS
GHAZIPUR: Describing culture as the voice of society, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Sunday said that India is witnessing a resurgence of cultural values and modern education is enabling the young generation to compete with global world while preserving ancient values.

Addressing a seminar on the "Role of modern education in preserving Indian Culture & Tradition" at Ghazipur, the Lt Governor, in his keynote address, highlighted the importance of the modern education system in preservation and promotion of culture and traditional knowledge and practices.

Modern education has maintained a fine balance between traditions and technology, between science and Sanskar. The National Education Policy too focuses on the overall development of the youth while ensuring they have access to best global



LG Manoj Sinha addressing during a seminar organised in the memory of great essayist, scholar and poet Shri Kubernath Rai at Ghazipur on Sunday.

standards of education, he said. The Lt Governor also spoke on reform in education sector and its impact on School and Higher Education.

"Reform in education has given new impetus to the cultural revival and the foundation of a bright future has been laid through the modern education system. There is a renewed interest towards Indian culture, ethics and moral values and a new con-

sciousness is taking shape", he said.

Meanwhile, the Lieutenant Governor also addressed Shri Kubernath Rai Memorial Lecture at Ghazipur and paid homage to the great essayist, scholar and poet. He remembered his significant contribution to nation-building.

"Kubernath Rai enriched Hindi literature and he remains an immense source of intellectual inspiration.

His essays provide an opportunity to the readers to discover new ideas and perspectives," the Lt Governor said.

At the memorial event, the Lt Governor recalled the ideals and values espoused by Shri Kubernath Rai and said that he is a living illustration of soul of Indianness who served the literature and culture with dedication to strengthen the national unity. Kubernath

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2 terrorist associates arrested in Shopian

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Security forces on Sunday arrested two alleged associates of terrorists and seized a cache of arms and ammunition from their possession in the Shopian district.

"Police along with security forces arrested two terrorist associates at Aloora Imamsahib area of Shopian and recovered arms, ammunition, grenades and

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Four arrested for murder in Reasi

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Four people have been arrested for killing a 45-year-old man around five months ago in a remote village in Reasi district, police said on Sunday.

Mohd Rafiq was found dead outside Jia Baggio Dass village in the district's Chasana area on December 9, they said.

The case was solved with the arrest of his neighbours Nazir Ahmed Ruslila,

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IAF convoy attack: Several people detained, search on for terrorists in Poonch

STATE TIMES NEWS
MENDHAR: Several people were detained for questioning on Sunday as a massive search operation for terrorists behind the Indian Air Force (IAF) convoy attack in Poonch district entered the second day, officials said.

Additional Director General of Police, Jammu, Anand Jain and senior officers of the Army and intelligence agencies visited the ambush spot in the Surankote area. The Army also conducted aerial surveillance using a helicopter; they said.

Five IAF personnel were injured in the attack on Saturday evening near Shahsitar and one of them later succumbed to injuries at a military hospital. The officials said a well-coordinated joint operation by the Army and the police was underway in many areas, including Shahsitar, Gursai, Sanai and Sheendara Top, to



neutralise the terrorists. The attackers are believed to have fled to a forest after the attack, they said.

Besides AK assault rifles, the terrorists also used a US-made M4 carbine and steel bullets to cause maximum casualties, the officials added.

The IAF has identified the fallen hero as Corporal Vikky Pahade and expressed condolences to his family.

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SIA initiates proclamation proceedings against two fugitives in Poonch

STATE TIMES NEWS
POONCH: The State Investigation Agency on Sunday pasted proclamation notices on the houses of two absconders wanted in a case related to narco-terrorism in Poonch district, officials said.

A State Investigation Agency (SIA) team reached the houses of Mohd Liyaqat alias Billa of Khari Karmara and Mohd Arshad alias Asif of Darabagyal Digwar Terwan near the Line of Control and pasted the proclamation notices, seeking their appearance before the Principal Sessions Judge, Poonch, within one

month, the officials said.

Liyaqat and Arshad are wanted in a case registered last year under various sections of the Indian Penal Code, Indian Arms Act, Explosive Substances Act, Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act and the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, they added.

"Proclamation is hereby made that the accused persons are required to appear before the court (of Principal Sessions Judge, Poonch) within the period of 30 days from the date of publication of proclamation,

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CEO emphasises collaborative efforts to enhance voter turnout

STATE TIMES NEWS
BANDIPORA: Reviewing poll preparedness in Bandipora district for Lok Sabha polls, Jammu and Kashmir Chief Electoral Officer Pandurang K Pole on Sunday emphasized collaborative efforts of different stakeholders to enhance the voter turnout.

Chairing a meeting here, the Chief Electoral Officer also stressed on enhancing media engagement in election related activities to increase the voter turnout and called for optimum utilisation of various multimedia platforms for larger aware-



CEO Pandurang K Pole chairing a meeting at Bandipora.

ness of electors.

The CEO took stock of arrangements being put in place by the administration in Bandipora.

The meeting was aimed to

assess the readiness of all stakeholders involved to ensure a seamless electoral process besides reviewing the arrangements made by election nodal officers.

The CEO also reviewed the arrangements being made in special polling stations, especially to facilitate PWD voters besides assessing the preparedness for home voting. He emphasized comprehensive hands-on training aimed at familiarizing the poll staff with the operation and maintenance of EVMs.

The CEO also asked the ARO to ensure proper uploading of data on EMS under their supervision.

The CEO along with General Observer for Baramulla PC, Deependra Singh Kushwah, visited

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PDP Chief Mehbooba served show cause notice for 'using child' to seek votes

STATE TIMES NEWS
RAJOURI: PDP president Mehbooba Mufti was on Sunday served a show cause notice, seeking an explanation for allegedly using a child to seek votes during campaigning for Lok Sabha polls in Rajouri district.

Rajouri is part of Anantnag parliamentary constituency which is going to polls in the sixth phase on May 25. Mehbooba, a former J&K chief minister, is among 20 candidates in the fray from the constituency.

Additional District Magistrate, Rajouri and nodal officer for Model Code of Conduct, Rajeev Kumar

Khajuria issued the show cause notice to Mehbooba in connection with an election rally conducted by her in the Shahdara Sharief area of the district on May 1.

"... a video has gone viral on the social media in which a minor female child is seen being used by her for political campaign/appeal to the public to vote for you (PDP) on the day of election and the same child being encouraged and appreciated by you after the culmination of her appeal," Khajuria said in his letter to Mehbooba.

Citing the guidelines of the Election Commission

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Police rope in drum beaters to warn people against JeI in J&K

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Police on Sunday used drum-beaters to attract attention of the public to warn them of any association with banned Jamaat-e-Islami (JeI) group in Rajouri and Kishtwar districts.

The centre extended the ban on JeI for five years in February for continuing activities against the

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Gangster slapped with PSA in Jammu

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: An alleged hardcore criminal was detained under the Public Safety Act (PSA) here on Sunday, police said.

Raman Kumar, a resident of Arnia's Kathar village, has been booked under the PSA for his alleged involvement in criminal activities in an organised manner, thus posing a threat to public peace and order, a police spokesman said.

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WEATHER
Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 36.0°C Min: 19.6°C
Humidity
Max: 50 Min: 21
Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 23.5°C Min: 11.2°C
Humidity
Max: 83 Min: 50
Sunset: 19:14 Hours
Sunrise: 05:39 Hours

Most delayed: Srinagar-Udhampur rail project completion may take 6 months

SHAKEELA ANDRABI
SRINAGAR: As the entire country is waiting to connect Kashmir through railway line, the major hurdle which the northern railway is facing is in tunnel 1 near Katra.

The 3.2-km-long tunnel may take another six to seven months to get completed. According to sources, taking a train to Kashmir valley has become a herculean task for the northern railways as they had to overcome several technical as well as geological issues in boring tunnels and laying the railway track.

"Though the biggest achievement for Konkan rail-

ways, construction agency, to construct the 359-meter tall world's highest single arch railway bridge over river Chenab connecting Bakkal and Kauri villages of Reasi district but the construction of Tunnel 1 near Katra is giving tough time to the construction agency," said a source.

He added, that there was a time when engineers thought of giving up the work on the tunnel but with the use of advanced technology, boring was completed by overcoming all the hurdles.

"Now, the heading and benching work is undergoing

and with all the difficulties and hurdles like cavities and other things engineers are ensuring the work is completed as soon as possible. Once the heading and benching is completed, laying of track will be done," he said.

"It may take another six to seven months if things remain alright and no further issues explode," he added.

The 338-km-long Jammu to Baramulla rail link will connect Kashmir valley with the rest of the country. Besides road and air connectivity, people will be

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Man booked for using VPN in violation of official order

STATE TIMES NEWS
RAJOURI: A man was on Sunday booked for violation of district magistrate's order by using Virtual Private Network (VPN) application in his personal mobile phone in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district police said.

Mazhar Iqbal (30), from Dhanore Jaralan village, has been booked under relevant sections of the Indian Penal Code at Darhal police station, a police spokesperson said.

In an order issued on April 24, Additional District Magistrate of Rajouri Rajeev Kumar Khajuria

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Police raids Gola Shah's Greater Kailash residence; recovers land papers

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Large number of registry papers, land maps, revenue record have been recovered from the residence of notorious land grabber Ravinder Kumar alias Gola Shah at Greater Kailash, during the joint raid by police and revenue officials.

Teams led by SP South Ajay Sharma, SDPO South launched search operation at Gola Shah's palatial residence at Greater Kailash. A large number of revenue papers were recovered from his residence.

Pursuant to court order received with respect to FIR



Police team at Gola Shah's Greater Kailash residence.

39/2024 of Police Station Gangwal regarding house search of Ravinder Gupta alias Gola Shah, resident of Greater Kailash, police team conducted the house search

of the arrested accused today. Search for material and documentary evidences related to the land dispute

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INDIA bloc using Muslims as pawns: PM Modi

STATE TIMES NEWS
SITAPUR (UP): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday said Muslims now understand that the Congress and INDIA bloc are using them as pawns, asserting that the community is distancing itself from them after seeing the development carried out by the BJP.

Addressing a rally in support of BJP candidate Rekha Verma in Dhaurahra, Modi said that the poor and those belonging to the SC, ST and OBC communities have also come to the BJP.

"Muslim brothers and sisters are seeing that (houses under) PM housing scheme were given to all the needy. Be it water connection or gas cylinder under Ujjwala Yojana, every government benefit was given to all...they (Muslims) are also getting benefits of all schemes without discrimination," Modi said.

"The Muslim community also realises that the Congress and INDI alliance have made them pawns," he



said, adding that "that is why the Muslim community is also distancing itself from these contractors of vote bank politics".

Now, to save the Muslim vote bank, these people (opposition) are playing a new game and are out doing appeasement in the open, he said.

The prime minister said the mani-

festos of the opposition reflects Muslim League's thinking.

BR Ambedkar and even Jawaharlal Nehru had said it clearly that there would be no religion-based reservation, but the Congress and INDIA bloc are "adamant on giving reservation on the basis of religion", he said.

"They don't realise that they are

preparing a ground to break the country once again on the basis of religion," the prime minister said.

He went on to say that in Karnataka, Muslims were "made OBC" overnight and provided reservation from the OBC quota.

"They (Congress) now want to do across the country what they did in Karnataka. They want to rob the reservation for SC, ST and OBC on the basis of religion," he claimed.

"Politics of appeasement has become compulsory for the existence of 'shahzade' of SP and Congress," Modi said in an apparent attack on Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav.

"I will not allow reservation on the basis of religion...there will be no theft of the reservation for SC, ST and OBC till Modi is alive," said the prime minister.

He also alleged that the INDIA bloc has an eye on the people's property. "They say that

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Sajad Lone ended ties with Gupkar Alliance at BJP's behest: Farooq

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: National Conference president Farooq



Abdullah on Sunday claimed that Peoples Conference leader Sajad Gani Lone ended his ties with the People's Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD) at the BJP's behest to facilitate his wife's return from Pakistan. The PAGD was formed by several parties, including the National Conference, Peoples Democratic Party, CPI(M), CPM, Peoples

Conference and the Awami National Conference, in 2019 to demand the restoration of the special status of J&K within the Constitution.

However, Lone, a separatist-turned-mainstream politician, left the alliance in January 2021, claiming that there was a breach of trust among the alliance partners during the district development council elections.

"Till yesterday, Sajad Lone was with Pakistan. He took money from the neighbouring country. When his wife went to Pakistan to meet her mother, wasn't Lone called to New Delhi and told to

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