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6th Convocation Ceremony of IIM Jammu Pradhan asks youth not to remain in comfort zone, contribute in economic dev of nation India emerging as new knowledge economy on world horizon, growing at exponential pace; LG Sinha This era is best time for youth: Dr Jitendra

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Dharmendra Pradhan, Union Minister of Education, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship; Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and Dr Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State addressed the 6th Convocation Ceremony of Indian Institute of Management, Jammu, on Friday.

Dharmendra Pradhan, Union Ministry of Education, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship extended his heartiest greetings and best wishes to the students who are graduating from the IIM Jammu.

It is a matter of great pride for all the graduating students that you have completed your education from a young Institution and centre of excellence like IIM Jammu, he added.

This is the beginning of a new chapter of your life. Be ready for the challenges. Don't remain in your comfort zone. You must not only look forward to becoming job creators but aspire to



LG Manoj Sinha and Union Ministers Dharmendra Pradhan & Dr Jitendra Singh during 6th Convocation Ceremony of Indian Institute of Management, Jammu, on Friday.

become wealth creators and contribute to the economic development of the country, said the Union Minister.

The responsibility of our great

nation, this entire human civilization rests on the shoulders of the youth. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the progressive education system and the

future-oriented IT reforms are paving the strong foundation for the better future of the younger generation, he said.

The Lt Governor Manoj Sinha congratulated the graduating students, their parents and the faculty members of IIM Jammu for their guidance and mentoring.

"India is emerging as a new knowledge economy on the world horizon and it is growing at an exponential pace. Transformational work in every sector driving the nation on the path to become a powerhouse," the Lt Governor said.

The graduating students are making a new beginning of their life at a juncture when this glorious phase of our country's development and growth have opened up new opportunities, new possibilities for all, he added.

"Building a dream in someone's heart is bigger than building any physical

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SFs kill 5 terrorists, foil infiltration bid in Keran Sector

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KUPWARA: Security forces killed five heavily armed foreign terrorists along the Line of Control (LoC) in Kupwara district on Friday and said it was the "biggest" infiltration bid to have been foiled since 2021, when India and Pakistan effected a ceasefire understanding.

The operation in the Junagund area in the Keran sector was launched Thursday night based on intelligence input gathered by the Jammu and Kashmir Police.

A police spokesperson said the encounter lasted for several hours, during which terrorists unleashed heavy gunfire, but the joint forces maintained utmost vigilance and perseverance which resulted in neutralisation of all five foreign terrorists. The identification of the killed terrorists is being ascertained.

ADGP Kashmir, Vijay

Kumar said that this group was affiliated to JKGF (JK Ghaznavi Force) which has Rafiq Nai and Shamsher Nai alias Zafar Iqbal, both residents of Poonch, presently settled in POJK as handlers and Murtaza Pathan alias Ghaznavi, resident of Faisalabad, Pakistan, an Afghan veteran affiliated with Deoband school of thought as operational commander supervising tactical aspect from POJK.

ADGP Kashmir also appreciated the role of joint forces for neutralizing the terrorists without any collateral damage. He also appreciated the joint teams for displaying the highest degree of synergy and coordination which led to the elimination of five foreign terrorists and averted a big threat for forthcoming yatra.

Srinagar-based Defence PRO Col Emron Musavi said the terror groups in Pakistan are using the "facade" of

ceasefire to perpetrate terror in the Union territory.

Briefing the media here, the general officer commanding of the army's 28 Division, Major General Girish Kalia, said that based on the input, multiple ambushes were set up along the expected routes of infiltration.

"Simultaneously, the entire area, the LoC fence or the anti-infiltration obstacle system (AIOS), was kept under surveillance," he said.

Around midnight, the movement of terrorists was picked up by the alert troops who braved challenging terrain and weather conditions.

"The infiltrating terrorists were engaged with precise and accurate fire, and in the ensuing firefight, five unidentified terrorists were neutralised," Maj Gen Kalia said, adding there was no collateral damage.

He said the terrorists were heavily armed and

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Remarks of Rahul, Atishi need not be taken seriously: Puri

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Union minister Hardeep Singh Puri took a swipe at Congress leader Rahul Gandhi over his remarks made in the US, saying his comments need not be taken seriously.

He also charged that there is a difference between what the Congress says and does.

He also took a swipe at Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader and Delhi minister Atishi.

On Gandhi's remarks on the condition of minorities in India, Puri reminded him of the 1984 anti-Sikh riots and

the Neelie massacre in Assam which claimed the lives of 2,000 people.

"There are two youth leaders. One goes to America...there is another youth leader...She goes to England and says that there are 35 crore people hungry in India. The prime minister is giving 80 crore people free ration, where these 35 crores came from," Puri told reporters after the conclusion of a function of the Jammu Municipal Corporation here. These comments made by

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5 JeM terrorists held in connection with circus worker's killing

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Five Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) terrorists were arrested from Anantnag district in connection with the killing of a circus worker last month, police said on Friday.

Deepak Kumar (27), a resident of Udhampur district, was shot dead by two motorcycle-borne militants from a close range when he had gone to the market to buy milk on the night of May 29. He worked at a circus in the Janglat Mandi area in the south Kashmir district.

Arms, ammunition recovered

BARAMULLA: Security forces on Friday recovered arms and ammunition in Baramulla district of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said.

The old and rusted arms and ammunition were recovered from the Chakseri area of the north Kashmir district, the officials said. They said the recoveries include three AK 56 rifles, eight magazines, and 237 AK rounds.

The prime accused in the case received weapon training through WhatsApp video calls from his handler, police said.

Addressing a press conference in Anantnag, Deputy Inspector General (DIG),

South Kashmir Range, Rayees Mohammad Bhat said the terrorists belong to Kashmir Freedom Fighters (KFF) -- an offshoot of proscribed terror outfit JeM.

"Investigations and searches were launched after the

incident. During the investigations, we got some technical leads and some clues. In the meantime, we zeroed in on some suspects and they were interrogated," Bhat said.

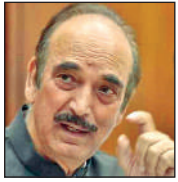
He said the investigations pointed at two terrorists Sehnan Bashir Nadaf son of Bashir Ahmad Nadaf resident of Shirpora Deva Colony and Ubaid Nazir Laigroo son of Nazir Ahmad Laigroo resident of Shirpora New Colony, who had gone missing.

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Azad urges LG Sinha to intervene over F&ES aspirants' recruitment issue

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Chairman Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) Ghulam Nabi Azad on Friday sought immediate intervention of Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha to resolve the issue of J&K Fire



and Emergency Services aspirants who have been protesting for a long time now," Azad said in a statement. A delegation of J&K Fire and Emergency Services aspirants led by Sameer Ahmad Bhat and Nisar Ahmad Nengroo met the former chief minister here

yesterday and sought his intervention. The delegation pleaded for the release of the report of a committee set up by LG Manoj Sinha six months back. The aspirants have been staging protests demanding justice in the recruitment process.

Nearly 3,000 pony, pitthu wallas register for extension of services at Amarnath Yatra

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: More than 2,900 people, who transport pilgrims on ponies, pitthas and palkis during the Amarnath Yatra, have registered for extension of services ahead of the annual pilgrimage to the cave shrine, officials said.

The pilgrimage to the shrine located at a height of 3,880 metre in the south Kashmir Himalayas begins on July 1.

The Yatra has two routes - the traditional 48-km route through Pahalgam in south Kashmir's Anantnag and the 14-km shorter but steep Baltal route in Ganderbal district of central Kashmir.

Reasi Assistant Labour Commissioner (ALC) said the registration process was on from last week after the department invited the service providers who are residents of Reasi.

"As many as 125 pony wallas, 1,046 pitthu wallas and 1,733 palki wallas have been registered till date. A total of 2,904 people have been registered," the ALC said. The registration counter for online registration has

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DB allows raising only temporary structures meant for convenient transit of pilgrims

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A Division Bench of the Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court at Srinagar Wing comprising Chief Justice N. Kotishwar Singh and Justice Moksha Khajuria Kazmi allowed the Government raising only temporary structures meant for the convenient transit of the Yatris/Pilgrims. These structures shall be liable to be demolished on completion of the yatra by restoring the earlier position in the field. Accordingly, the aforesaid order dated March 27, 2023

passed by this Court is modified only for the aforesaid limited period only till the conclusion of Amarnath Yatra this year.

When the petition came up for hearing, Division Bench observed that the matter pertains to important environmental issues relating to preservation of Sonamarg. Before we consider any modification to the order passed by this Court on March 27, 2023, we have to keep in mind that any construction or renovation may have serious implication for preserva-

tion of the environment and ecology of Sonamarg.

Accordingly, DB posts the matter after vacation for consideration.

DB further observed that however, considering the fact that Amarnath Yatra is going to commence on July 1, 2023, in order to facilitate and provide convenient provisions and facilities for the large number of pilgrims who are going to visit Amarnath, which is also for a limited period, as prayed for by learned counsel for

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Jammu stands out as top performer in DGGI 3.0

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta on Friday released the 3rd edition of District Good Governance Index (DGGI 3.0) here along with performance of Districts in achieving a set of 385 Deliverables given to them during 22-23.

At the outset, the Chief Secretary praised the whole team of Planning Department & Monitoring Department headed by Administrative Secretary, Raghav Langar for carrying out this massive exercise and compiling rankings right from Panchayats up to

CS for making all villages ODF+ by June end

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta on Friday emphasised upon the concerned to intensify their efforts to declare all the habitations of J&K as (Open Defecation Free) ODF+ within this month only. He observed that the requisite funds demanded has already been put at disposal of the department so there should be no delay in meeting the deadline.

Dr Mehta made these remarks while speaking in a meeting to review the performance of this Swachhta Mission here in the UT.

The meeting was attended by the Commissioner Secretary, RDD; Director, Rural Sanitation besides other concerned officers of the Department. Jammu based officers participated in the meeting through video conferencing. Dr Mehta enquired from the officers about the status

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District level. Dr Mehta called this exercise path breaking for adopting an evidence based plan-

ning tool enabling targeted interventions. He said that it would assist the administration in evolving a more focused approach towards each sector. He observed that these rankings have helped pinpoint the lacunae in each area of development thereby making the impact of interventions measurable which would lead to better outcomes.

The Chief Secretary termed it a tool towards ensuring good governance in the UT. He urged all the Deputy Commissioners to thoroughly go through these

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Polythene-free Jammu initiative

Shun polythene, switch to sustainable bags: Union Minister DRDO's alternative to polythene bags significant step towards transforming urban landscape: LG



Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri and LG Manoj Sinha launching bio-plastic carry bag developed by DRDO under Polythene-free Jammu initiative on Friday.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Hardeep Singh Puri, Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas, Housing and Urban Affairs, and Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Friday launched the bioplastic carry bag developed by Defence

Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) under Polythene-free Jammu initiative.

Hardeep Singh Puri, Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas, Housing and Urban Affairs congratulated the people of Jammu, Mayor

JMC and ULB members on getting the alternative of polythene. He called upon the people to shun polythene bags and switch to sustainable bags developed by DRDO. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has

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LG Sinha tells A Tale of Two Smart Cities

This is not Charles Dickens 1858 historical novel 'A Tale of Two Cities', set in London and Paris before and during the French Revolution, the yesteryear J&K graduates have grown up with but it is all about the observations of the pro-active Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on the status of Jammu and Srinagar Smart City Projects. The ambitious project got off in the two capital cities of the Union Territory almost simultaneously but the speed and perfection with which these are proceeding tell different tales, which rightly invoked the attention of Manoj Sinha, always on toes to see for himself the developmental projects being translated on ground zero.

Speaking at a function in the summer capital, the Lieutenant Governor observed that the work on the Jammu Smart City Project is not as satisfactory as in Srinagar, notwithstanding the Jammu Smart City Project getting additional Rs 7 crores for completion of various works, currently under execution. He tagged the term 'excellent' to the work being done in Srinagar.

The Lieutenant Governor has frankly and firmly reflected the observations of the Jammu people, who have been speaking in unequivocal terms about the quality of work and delays taking place, much to the displeasure of the city dwellers, who face a lot of inconveniences and risks too. Risk in terms of pedestrian movement as the spacious pavements are conveniently and comfortably being used by vehicle owners for parking purposes. With observations of the LG going public, the coming days will witness Jammuties echoing similar remarks on various facets of the Jammu Smart City Project (JMCP).

WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 35.6°C Min: 24.5°C

Humidity
Max: 64 Min: 47

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 29.8°C Min: 15.6°C

Humidity
Max: 65 Min: 35
Sunset : 19:41 Hours
Sunrise : 05:25 Hours