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# STATE TIMES

THE BOLD VOICE OF J&K

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Air surcharge 50 paise for Leh

**02 Terrorist attack on pilgrims in Reasi widely condemned**

**09 DB quashes Civil Judge (Junior) selection under ST Category**

**09 AC approves dedicated Commission for facilitating reservations to OBCs in Local Bodies**

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## Modi 3.0: Portfolios allocated to Ministers



### Release of 'Kisan Nidhi' fund is Modi's first decision in 3rd term

NEW DELHI: Taking charge as Prime Minister in his third term, Narendra Modi on Monday signed his first file authorising the release of 17th installment of the 'PM Kisan Nidhi' funds amounting to nearly Rs 20,000 crore, which will benefit around 9.3 crore farmers. After signing on to the release of funds, Modi said, "Ours is a government fully committed to 'kisan kalyan' (farmers' welfare). It is, therefore, fitting that the first file signed on taking charge is related to it. We want to keep working even more for farmers and the agriculture sector in the times to come." The decision signifies the government's commitment to farmers' welfare following the ruling National Democratic Alliance's poll win, albeit with some setback, especially in parts of rural India.

### Cabinet approves assistance for constructing 3 crore houses under PMAY

NEW DELHI: The Union Cabinet in its first meeting under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday approved government assistance for the construction of three crore houses under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY). This was the first meeting of the Union Cabinet of Modi 3.0 government held at the Prime Minister's 7, Lok Kalyan Marg residence. The meeting was attended by ministers of all allies of the NDA. "It has been decided in the Cabinet meeting today to provide assistance to three crore additional rural and urban households for the construction

### PRIME MINISTER

▶ **Narendra Modi** - Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Department of Atomic Energy; Department of Space

### CABINET MINISTERS

- ▶ **Rajnath Singh** - Ministry of Defence
- ▶ **Amit Shah** - Ministry of Home Affairs; Ministry of Cooperation
- ▶ **Nitin Gadkari** - Ministry of Road Transport and Highways; Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers
- ▶ **JP Nadda** - Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- ▶ **Shivraj Singh Chouhan** - Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare; Ministry of Rural Development
- ▶ **Nirmala Sitharaman** - Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Corporate Affairs
- ▶ **Subrahmanyam Jaishankar** - Ministry of External Affairs
- ▶ **Manohar Lal Khattar** - Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs; Ministry of Power
- ▶ **JD(S) leader HD Kumaraswamy** - Ministry of Heavy Industries; Ministry of Steel
- ▶ **Piyush Goyal** - Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- ▶ **Dharmendra Pradhan** - Ministry of Education
- ▶ **HAM leader Jitan Ram Manjhi** - Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises
- ▶ **JD(U) leader Lalan Singh** - Ministry of Panchayati Raj; Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying
- ▶ **Sarbananda Sonowal** - Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways
- ▶ **Virendra Kumar** - Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- ▶ **TDP leader Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu** - Ministry of Civil Aviation
- ▶ **Prahlad Joshi** - Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; Ministry of New and Renewable Energy

- ▶ **Jual Oram** - Ministry of Tribal Affairs
- ▶ **Giriraj Singh** - Ministry of Textiles
- ▶ **Ashwini Vaishnaw** - Ministry of Railways; Ministry of Information and Broadcasting; Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
- ▶ **Jyotiraditya Scindia** - Ministry of Communications; Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region
- ▶ **Bhupendra Yadav** - Ministry of Environment and Forests
- ▶ **Gajendra Singh Shekhawat** - Ministry of Tourism; Ministry of Culture
- ▶ **Annpurna Devi** - Ministry of Women & Child Development
- ▶ **Kiren Rijju** - Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs; Ministry of Minority Affairs
- ▶ **Hardeep Singh Puri** - Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas
- ▶ **Mansukh Mandaviya** - Ministry of Labour & Employment; Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports
- ▶ **G Kishan Reddy** - Ministry of Coal; Ministry of Mines
- ▶ **LJP(BV) Chirag Paswan** - Ministry of Food Processing Industries
- ▶ **CR Patil** - Ministry of Jal Shakti

### MINISTERS OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

- ▶ **Rao Inderjit Singh** - Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation; Ministry of Planning; Minister of State in the Ministry of Culture
- ▶ **Jitendra Singh** - Ministry of Science and Technology; Ministry of Earth Sciences; Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office; Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Minister of State in the Department of Atomic Energy; Minister of State in the Department of Space
- ▶ **Arjun Ram Meghwal** - Ministry of Law and Justice; Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs
- ▶ **Prataprao Ganapatrao Jadhav** - Ministry of Ayush; Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

▶ **RLD chief Jayant Chaudhary** - Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship; Minister of State in the Ministry of Education

### MINISTERS OF STATE

- ▶ **Jitin Prasada** - MoS Ministry of Commerce and Industry; MoS Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.
- ▶ **Shripad Yesso Naik** - MoS Ministry of Power; MoS Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
- ▶ **Pankaj Chaudhary** - MoS Ministry of Finance
- ▶ **Krishan Pal** - MoS Ministry of Cooperation
- ▶ **RPI(A) leader Athawale Ramdas Bandu** - MoS Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- ▶ **Ram Nath Thakur** - MoS Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
- ▶ **Nityanand Rai** - MoS Ministry of Home Affairs
- ▶ **Anupriya Singh Patel** - MoS Ministry of Health and Family Welfare; MoS Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers
- ▶ **V Somanna** - MoS Ministry of Jal Shakti; MoS Ministry of Railways
- ▶ **TDP MP Chandra Sekhar Pemmasani** - MoS Ministry of Rural Development; MoS Ministry of Communications
- ▶ **S. P. Singh Baghel** - MoS Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying; MoS Ministry of Panchayati Raj
- ▶ **Shobha Karandlaje** - MoS Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises; MoS Ministry of Labour and Employment
- ▶ **Kirti Vardhan Singh** - MoS Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change; MoS Ministry of External Affairs
- ▶ **BL Verma** - MoS Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; MoS Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- ▶ **Shantam Thakur** - MoS Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways
- ▶ **Suresh Gopi** - MoS Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas; MoS Ministry of Tourism
- ▶ **Li. Murugan** - MoS Ministry of

- Information and Broadcasting; MoS Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs
- ▶ **Ajay Tamta** - MoS Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
- ▶ **Bandi Sanjay Kumar** - MoS Ministry of Home Affairs
- ▶ **Kamlesh Paswan** - MoS Ministry of Rural Development
- ▶ **Bhagirath Choudhary** - MoS Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
- ▶ **Satish Chandra Dubey** - MoS Ministry of Coal; MoS Ministry of Mines
- ▶ **Sanjay Seth** - MoS Ministry of Defence
- ▶ **Ravneet Singh Bittu** - MoS Ministry of Food Processing Industries; MoS Ministry of Railways
- ▶ **Durga Das Uikey** - MoS Ministry of Tribal Affairs
- ▶ **Raksha Nikhil Khadse** - MoS Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports
- ▶ **Sukanta Majumdar** - MoS Ministry of Education; MoS Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region.
- ▶ **Savitri Thakur** - MoS Ministry of Women and Child Development.
- ▶ **Tokhan Sahu** - MoS Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
- ▶ **Raj Bhushan Choudhary** - MoS Ministry of Jal Shakti
- ▶ **Bhupathi Raju Srinivasa Varma** - MoS Ministry of Heavy Industries; MoS Ministry of Steel
- ▶ **Harsh Malhotra** - MoS Ministry of Road Transport and Highways; MoS Ministry of Corporate Affairs
- ▶ **Nimuben Bambhanian** - MoS Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
- ▶ **Murliidhar Mohol** - MoS Ministry of Cooperation; MoS Ministry of Civil Aviation
- ▶ **George Kurian** - MoS Ministry of Minority Affairs; MoS Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying
- ▶ **Pabitra Margherita** - MoS Ministry of External Affairs; MoS Ministry of Textiles

### STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Most of the key cabinet ministers in the third Narendra Modi-led government have retained the portfolios they held in the previous BJP dispensation. While there are some new faces in the cabinet, leaders such as BJP president J P

Nadda and Jual Oram have returned as ministers. While Nadda had served in the first Modi government and has this time been made the health minister, Oram returned to the Centre after a gap as the minister for tribal affairs. Rajnath Singh (BJP): He has seen a long political innings from being a chief

minister of Uttar Pradesh to the national president of the Bharatiya Janata Party. He has retained the defence portfolio. Amit Shah (BJP): He has retained the home and cooperation portfolios. He has also served as BJP national president for six years. Nitin Gadkari (BJP): He has retained the road and

highways portfolio. Closely associated with Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh from his early days, he is seen as a crusader for bio-fuels. He too has been a national president of the BJP. Nirmala Sitharaman (BJP): She continues as minister of finance and corporate affairs. A Rajya Sabha member from

Karnataka, she decided against contesting the Lok Sabha elections. S Jaishankar (BJP): A career diplomat who has served as India's envoy to Beijing and later rose to become the foreign secretary. He was the external affairs minister in the second Modi government. He has retained the portfolio.

Piyush Goyal (BJP): He was the minister of commerce and industry, consumer affairs, food and public distribution and textiles as well as Leader of the House, Rajya Sabha, in the previous Modi government. This time, he has retained the commerce and industry portfolio. Dharmendra Pradhan (BJP): He has served as

minister of education and minister of skill development and entrepreneurship. He has retained the education portfolio. Prallahad Joshi (BJP): The minister of parliamentary affairs, coal and mines in the second Modi government, he has this time been given the consumer affairs, food and public distribution, and the

new and renewable energy portfolios. Sarbananda Sonowal (BJP): He was the minister for ports, shipping and waterways and Ayush. He retained the port, shipping and waterways portfolio. Virendra Kumar (BJP): An eight-time Lok Sabha member, he was the

### Attackers of pilgrims and those aiding, abetting them will be punished: LG Announces ex-gratia for NoK of martyrs, visits hospitals

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday assured the people that those behind attack on pilgrims in Reasi and those aiding and abetting them will be punished. He chaired a high-level security review meeting with the officials of J&K Police and Civil Administration, at Police Headquarters, Jammu. The Lieutenant Governor posted on X: "Chaired a security review meeting with the officials of J&K Police and Civil



LG Manoj Sinha enquiring well being of injured pilgrims at GMC Hospital Jammu on Monday.

Administration. I assure the people that those behind attack on pilgrims in Reasi and those aiding and abetting them will be punished".

### 342 posts approved for High-Security Prison in Kathua

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: Administrative Council which met here under the Chairmanship of Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has approved creation of 342 posts of different categories for High-Security Prison at village Dhambra Mahanapur of District Kathua. The High Security Prison is being constructed at the cost of Rs 87.81 crores. The Prison shall have the capacity of lodging 240 high-risk prisoners. The

### Bus terror attack: Combing operation launched; NIA, SIA visit spot

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: A massive manhunt is underway for three foreign terrorists, possibly of the Lashkar-e-Taiba, responsible for the deadly attack on pilgrims in Jammu and Kashmir's Reasi that resulted in the loss of nine lives, including a two-year-old, officials involved in the investigation said on Monday. Based on the statements recorded by those injured in the attack, the officials said they have not ruled out the possibility of a fourth person being present at the spot who acted as a lookout for the three terrorists.



Nine people were killed and 41 injured as the terrorists opened fire at the 53-seater bus, on its way from the Shiv Khori temple to the Mata Vaishno Devi shrine in Katra, causing it to veer off the road and fall into a deep gorge near the Teryath village of the Poni area of Reasi on Sunday.

### I am not contesting J&K UT Assembly polls: Omar

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: National Conference (NC) leader Omar Abdullah on Monday ruled out the possibility of him contesting the forthcoming elections to the Jammu and Kashmir assembly but said he would be leading his party's campaign for the polls. The former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister also said he will not humiliate himself by entering the legislature of a Union Territory (UT). On his defeat in the Lok Sabha election to jailed contestant Sheikh Abdul Rashid alias Engineer Rashid in Baramulla, Abdullah said in electoral politics, one has

### Dr Jitendra in PMO for record 3rd term, to retain 6 other Ministries

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NEW DELHI: Recognizing outstanding performance and efficient handling of the affairs in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) by Dr Jitendra Singh during the past a decade, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday again reposed his immense trust and confidence by retaining him in the PMO. This has proved wrong a few critics, who, according to sources, were bent upon giving an impression about Dr Singh, a third time Member Parliament from Udhampur Lok Sabha seat in Jammu and Kashmir, perhaps getting lesser important portfolio in the Modi 3.0 government, notwithstanding his contribution in driving key projects and achieving milestones that align with the strategic goals of the Prime Minister in steering the nation to scientific and technological advancement. These myopic critics

had even cast doubts about the election outcome but Dr Jitendra Singh's glorious victory made them eat humble pie. The Prime Minister adequately rewarded Dr Singh's victory as also performance during the previous two tenures. Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh will be in the all powerful PMO for a record 3rd consecutive term which is possibly a record in the history of independent India and in addition, he will also retain 6 other Ministries held by him earlier. As per the list released this evening by the Cabinet Secretariat, Government of India, mentioning the allocation of portfolios for different Ministers sworn in yesterday along with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Minister of State with Independent Charge, Dr Jitendra Singh will continue in the PMO for third consecutive term which is a record in itself and at the same time



he will also hold six other important Ministries namely, Science & Technology, Earth Sciences, Personnel (DoPT), Administrative Reforms, Public Grievances & Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space. In addition, in his capacity as Minister In Charge Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT), Dr Jitendra Singh will also be the

Minister overseeing the all important premier institute of Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA) Mussoorie, which is mandated to impart training to new Civil Servants including the IAS officers before they take up their formal official assignment. In the same capacity, Dr Jitendra Singh will also be overseeing the administrative functioning of the all important agencies affiliated to the Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT) which include Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT), Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) and Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). Dr Jitendra Singh will also continue to be the National Chairman of one of the Government of India's most premier institutions namely the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA) which is

headquartered in the national capital with local chapters across all the States of the country. Pertinent to mention that in his last two terms as Minister, Dr Jitendra Singh is credited in being associated with several landmark reforms in the Ministries in his charge. These include abolition of interviews in job selection, Rozgar Mela and Mission Karmyogi in DoPT, introduction of the Assistant Secretary training for IAS officers before they go to their respective State cadres, series of Pension reforms particularly for divorced daughters, missing employees and Diyaangs, world acclaimed events like Chandrayaan-3 and Aditya-L1 in Space, opening of the Space sector for Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) and extension of Nuclear plants in different parts of the country including North India.

**WEATHER**

Temperature (Jammu)  
Max: 41.9°C Min: 23.4°C

Humidity  
Max: 43 Min: 13

Temperature (Srinagar)  
Max: 29.5°C Min: 12.0°C

Humidity  
Max: 70 Min: 27

Sunset : 19:37 Hours  
Sunrise : 05:22 Hours