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**SOWING SKILLS**

**SHAPING INDIA**

03

Omar Abdullah referred Vajpayee on completion of USBR-National Project 2002 but forgot Manmohan's Jammu Poonch National Project 2012

05

SASCI to give huge push to key infrastructure development in J&K: Chief Secretary

10

Rishu of J&K bags 60th Aghar Jitto Dangal title

## LG chairs high-level security review meeting for Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra



LG Manoj Sinha chairing meeting with senior officials to review the security arrangements for the forthcoming Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra on Friday.

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: The Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Friday chaired a high-level meeting with senior officials to review the security arrangements for the forthcoming Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra.

The meeting was attended by Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Nalin Prabhat, DGP J&K; Lt Gen Prashant Srivastava, GoC 15 Corps; S.J.M Gillani, Special Director

(Coordination), PHQ; Pankaj Thakur, Joint Director IB; Nitish Kumar, ADGP CID J&K; Rajesh Kumar, ADG CRPF; Dr Mandeep K. Bhandari, CEO SABS and Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor; Ramesh Kumar, Divisional Commissioner Jammu; Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; VK Birdi, IGP Kashmir; Bhim Sen Tuti, IGP Jammu; senior officials of Police, Army,

CAPFs and Intelligence Agencies.

The Lieutenant Governor took a comprehensive review of the security apparatus and measures deployed by the security agencies to ensure safety of the pilgrims.

He directed for seamless coordination among the Civil Administration, Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board, J&K Police, Army, Security Forces, and all the other crucial stakeholders to ensure a peaceful and successful holy

pilgrimage.

The Lieutenant Governor reviewed the working of the security grid and various significant steps being taken by Army, CAPFs and J&K Police to ensure foolproof security for the Yatra.

The Lieutenant Governor also reviewed the contingency plan, deployment of Police and security personnel, preparedness and response mechanism of line departments and

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## Modi meets injured in AI plane crash; six of 265 bodies handed over to kin

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

AHMEDABAD: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday visited the site of the Air India plane crash, in which 265 people lost their lives, and met the injured at the civil hospital in Ahmedabad.

A day after the deadly plane crash in the city, the bodies of six victims were handed over to their families after identification on Friday, police said.

In case of the other bodies, which are partially or fully charred, it will take around 72 hours to complete the exercise of matching their DNA samples, police said.

Modi arrived at the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Airport in the morning and drove straight to the plane crash site, officials said.

He spent around 20 minutes inspecting the site, where the Boeing 787 Dreamliner aircraft (AI171) crashed into a complex of B J Medical College in the Meghanagar area shortly after taking off on Thursday afternoon.

Civil Aviation Minister Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu and Gujarat Minister of State for Home Harsh Sanghavi informed the prime minister about how the

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PM Narendra Modi at the crash site of AI-171 flight at Ahmedabad.

### Meets family members of Vijay Rupani

AHMEDABAD: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday met the family members of former Gujarat chief minister Vijay Rupani, who died in the Air India plane crash in Ahmedabad, and remembered him as a humble and hardworking leader.

Rupani, 68, was among the 241 passengers of the London-bound flight who died in the horrific crash on Thursday afternoon.

PM Modi on Friday visited the site of the Air India plane crash in Ahmedabad and met the injured victims at the civil hospital here. After that, he also met the family members of Rupani in the city. "Met the family of

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## Revenue official held in bribery case

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
POONCH/JAMMU: The Anti Corruption Bureau (ACB) has arrested a revenue official for accepting a bribe of Rs 5,000 in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district, officials said.

The accused has been identified as Mohammad Jameel, who was posted as a Patwari of Dhara Girdwari in the district, they said.

The complainant alleged that he needed a revenue record of his land situated in Dhara village for which he already applied via online mode on April 26. However, Patwari Jameel was demanding a bribe for providing the

attested copies of the same, they said. On receipt of a complaint against Jameel, a discreet verification was conducted, which confirmed the allegations and accordingly, a case under the Prevention of Corruption Act was registered and investigation taken up, they said. A trap was laid and the revenue official was caught red-handed while accepting a bribe of Rs 5,000 from the complainant, the officials said, adding that Jameel was arrested on the spot. Subsequently, a search was also conducted at his residence in Poonch, they said. Further investigation is underway.

## 26 bikers from Kerala pay tributes to victims of terrorism

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: A group of 26 bikers from Kerala, on a visit to Jammu and Kashmir under the 'Chalo LoC' initiative, Friday visited the frontier Kupwara district to pay tributes to victims of terrorism. The bikers' visit comes in the wake of the recent terror attack in Pahalgam that left 26 dead to reaffirm the spirit of unity and resilience among citizens across the country, officials said. The group of bikers carrying a message of peace and solidarity reached the historic Sharda Temple near the Line of Control (LoC) in the north Kashmir district, officials said.

The bikers began their journey from Kalady, the birthplace of Adi Shankaracharya, in Kerala.

Officials said they expressed their deep condolences to the families of terror victims and emphasised the importance of standing together against all forms of violence. The visit was a symbolic gesture to promote brotherhood, cultural exchange, and national integration, they added.

**WEATHER**

Temperature (Jammu)  
Max: 43.6°C Min: 31.0°C

Humidity  
Max: 52 Min: 24

Temperature (Srinagar)  
Max: 32.4°C Min: 19.0°C

Humidity  
Max: 54 Min: 24

Sunset : 19:39 Hours  
Sunrise : 05:21 Hours

## DB grants relief to Ex- JKPCCL employee, awards 50 pc back wages; dismisses Govt's appeal

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: In a significant judgment delivered by the Division Bench of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh at Jammu, comprising the Chief Justice Arun Palli and Justice Rajnesh Oswal, the Court granted partial relief to Suresh Kumar Rekhi, a former Assistant Manager (Civil) with the Jammu and Kashmir Project Construction Corporation Limited (JKPCCL), who had been dismissed from service on the allegation of having secured employment using a fake Permanent

Resident Certificate (PRC). Suresh Kumar Rekhi was appointed as Assistant Manager (Civil) in JKPCCL in 1993. However, after nearly 28 years of service, his employment was terminated vide Order No. 84 of 2021 dated July 29, 2021 by the employer on grounds that he had secured the job using a fake PRC.

The termination was made following a communication from the General Administration Department dated February 8, 2021, which was subsequently acted upon by the Public Works Department.

The appellant-employee challenged the termination in WP(C) No. 1769/2021, arguing that the termination was made without granting him an opportunity to be heard, thus violating the principles of natural justice and specifically the doctrine of "audi alteram partem".

On December 18, 2023, a Single Judge quashed the termination order and restored Rekhi's service with all consequential benefits except for monetary benefits (salary and allowances) from July 29, 2021 to December 18, 2023. The Court

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CM Omar Abdullah listening to delegation members during his Raabita programme at Srinagar on Friday.

the promotion of the Kashmiri language, urging greater institutional support for its development.

A delegation of Revenue

## Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra: Sadhus reach Jammu ahead of commencement of pilgrimage on July 3

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Scores of sadhus have begun arriving in Jammu, the city of temples, for their onward pilgrimage to the cave shrine of Amarnath in the South Kashmir Himalayas beginning July 3.

The 32-day pilgrimage will commence from the twin tracks, the traditional 48 km Nunwan-Pahalgam route in Anantnag and the 14 km shorter but steeper Baltal route in Ganderbal on July 3.

A day earlier, the first batch of pilgrims will leave Jammu's Bhagwati nagar base camp and Ram Mandir



'Sadhus' at Ram Mandir base camp ahead of annual pilgrimage to holy cave shrine of Amarnath, in Jammu.

for the Valley.

The shrine houses the naturally formed ice Shivlingam and over 5.10 lakh pilgrims

paid their obeisance at the 3,880-meter-high shrine last year.

"The sadhus have started

arriving in Jammu city. Scores have reached our temple complex, which is one of the boarding and lodging centres for the Sadhus," said temple head Mahant Rameshwar Dass.

The famous Ram Mandir in the old city reverberates with chants in praise of Lord Shiva, as over 200 sadhus from across the country have reached here to take part in the annual yatra to the holy cave shrine of Amarnath.

"All necessary arrangements, including round-the-clock free community kitchen service, lodging, and

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# Israel strikes Iran's nuclear sites, kills its top generals, scientists

### ■ AGENCY

DUBAI: Israel launched blistering attacks on the heart of Iran's nuclear and military structure Friday, deploying warplanes and drones previously smuggled into the country to attack key facilities and kill top generals and scientists -- a barrage it said was necessary before its adversary got any closer to building an atomic weapon.

The ongoing military and intelligence operation raised the potential for all-out war between the countries and propelled the region, already on edge, into even greater upheaval.

Iran quickly retaliated by sending a swarm of drones at Israeli, and Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei warned of "severe punishment."

Iran had been censured by the UN's atomic watchdog a day earlier for not complying with obligations meant to prevent it from developing a nuclear weapon.

Israel had long threatened such a strike, and successive American administrations had sought to prevent it, fearing it would ignite a wider conflict across the Middle East and possibly be ineffective at destroying Iran's dispersed and hardened nuclear programme.

But a confluence of developments triggered by Hamas' Oct 7, 2023, attack - plus the reelection of US President Donald Trump - created the conditions that allowed Israel to finally follow through on its threats.

Israel had told the Trump administration that the large-scale attacks were coming, officials in the US and Israel said on condition of anonymity to describe private diplomatic discussions.

On Wednesday, the US pulled some American diplomats from Iraq's capital and offered voluntary evacuations for the families of US troops in the wider Middle East. On Friday, the US began



shifting military resources in the region, including ships, as Israel prepared for more retaliation, two US officials said.

Countries in the region condemned Israel's attack, while leaders around the globe called for immediate deescalation from both sides. The UN Security Council

scheduled an emergency meeting for Friday afternoon at Iran's request.

In a letter to the council, Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi called the killing of its officials and scientists "state terrorism" and affirmed his country's right to self-defence.

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### Israel's attack on Iran 'totally unjustified': Omar

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Friday said Israel's attack on Iran was "totally unjustified" as the Islamic Republic did not give any reason to the Jewish state to wage a war against it. "As far as I know, Iran did not give any reason to Israel to carry out attacks on it. Israel, of its own will, waged war against the country, calling it a pre-emptive attack," Abdullah told reporters here.

If the world powers remain silent on Israel's aggression, it would be "very unfortunate", Abdullah said.

"Today, Israel did what Russia did with Ukraine. You raise your voice against Russia, and a movement starts against Russia, but when Israel attacks Iran, the world powers -- be it the US, Europe, or any other country -- fall silent. "If an attack by a country,

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### Farooq urges MEA to ensure safety of Kashmiri students in Iran

SRINAGAR: National Conference president Farooq Abdullah on Friday urged the Ministry of External Affairs to ensure the safety of Kashmiri students in Iran, which was attacked by Israel.

The former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister also called on Israel and Iran to exercise restraint and avoid any further escalation.

"Every step must be taken to ensure the safety and well-being of Kashmiri students studying in Iran. Their families are deeply worried, and we stand with them in this difficult time," he said.

Abdullah emphasised the importance of dialogue

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