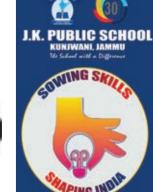


Vol. 30 Issue 171 • Jammu • Sunday • June 22, 2025 • Pages 12 • ₹ 5.00



Regd. No. L-29/JK-346/2025-27 Dr Jitendra holds 'Public Durbar' at JU Ramnagar, issues resolved on spot

LG pays tributes to freedom fighters, luminaries from West Bengal

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

JK Public School Kunjwani champions holistic wellness on International Yoga Day

"Operation Sindoor not over"

Any terror attack on Indian soil will prove heavy on Pak: Rajnath

Briefed on border security, arrangements for Amarnath Yatra



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh addressing troops of Udhampur-based northern command on the occasion of International Yoga Day on Saturday.

STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: Defence Rajnath Singh on Saturday warned Pakistan that any future terror attack on Indian soil will have serious consequences on the country as Operation Sindoor is not over yet and India is ready to take any action against the

Addressing troops of Udhampur-based

them on the occasion of International Yoga Day, the defence minister said Operation Sindoor conveyed a message to Pakistan that their "thousand cut' policy against India is not going to suc-

"Operation Sindoor is not over yet.. through this operation, we have told Pakistan that continuing terrorism against India will not be tolerated and the response will get from bad to worse,"

Singh, flanked by Army chief Upendra Dwivedi, said.

Under Operation Sindoor, Indian Armed forces struck terror infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir during the intervening night of May 6 and 7 in retaliation to Pahalgam terror attack that left 26 persons, mostly tourists, dead on April 22.

"Operation Sindoor was a natural progression of 2016 surgical strike and 2019 air strike (across the border). We conveyed to Pakistan that its policy of thousand cuts against India will not

"Any terror attack on the soil of India will prove disastrous for Pakistan. India is ready to take any type of action against terrorism," Singh said.

Meanwhile, the Defence Minister was briefed by top Army brass on the prevailing security situation in Jammu and Kashmir with a focus on border areas, anti-terrorist operations and the Amarnath Yatra scheduled to start next month, officials said.

Chief of the Army Staff General Upendra Dwivedi, General Officer

Three detained for questioning during anti-terror ops STATE TIMES NEŴS

SAMBA/JAMMU: Three people were detained for questioning during an antiterrorist operation by police in Samba district of Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday, officials said.

operation launched in Barodi village of the Bari Brahmana area this morning. Three people were taken into custody for

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Govt announces 15-day summer break in

schools across valley STATE TIMES NEWS

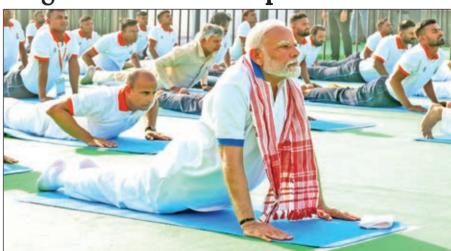
SRINAGAR: Authorities in Kashmir on Saturday announced a 15-day summer break -- starting June 23 -in the schools across the valley in the wake of the prevailing heatwave.

schools across Kashmir would observe the summer break from June 23 to July 7, an order issued by the Director of School Education, Kashmir, said. "Consequent upon

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

World going through tensions, Yoga gives direction of peace: Modi

Air surcharge 50 paisa for Leh



PM Narendra Modi participating in International Yoga Day celebrations at Visakhapatnam

STATE TIMES NEWS

VISAKHAPATNAM (ANDHRA PRADESH): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said the whole world was going through some kind of tension with many regions facing unrest and instability, and that Yoga gives a direction of peace and brings oneness. Addressing the 11th

International Yoga Day par-

ticipants here, Modi said the day marks the beginning of the ancient practice for humanity, where inner peace becomes a global policy.

The TDP-led NDA government's massive Yoga Day celebrations entered the record books, with the state government informing that 23 new achievements were made.

"Unfortunately, today the

whole world is going through some kind of tension. In many regions, unrest and instability are increasing. In such a situation, Yoga gives us the direction of peace. Yoga is the pause button that humanity needs to breathe, to balance, to become whole again," he said.

"My request to the world--PMlet this Yoga Day mark

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

ACB arrests Tehsildar for demanding bribe of Rs 1 lakh

STATE TIMES NEWS

Jammu and Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Saturday trapped and arrested Tehsildar, Qaziabad, Kupwara for demanding bribe of Rs 1 lakh.

"A complaint was received by Jammu and Kashmir Anti Corruption Bureau from a person, resident of Handwara alleging therein that Tehsildar, Qaziabad Kralgund, Handwara namely Ghulam Rasool Bhat is demanding bribe from him for providing him permissions for cutting of walnut trees etc," an ACB official

Ex-BDC member arrested with heroin **STATE TIMES NEWS**

NOWSHERA: Police on

Saturday arrested a former BDC member with 10 grams of heroin in Rajouri district on Saturday, officials said. A police party from Police

Post Lamberi laid a special naka at Bagnoti near Radha Swami Ashram and at approximately 1600 hours, a vehicle (JK02DL-7776) was intercepted which was on its way from Lamberi towards Bagnoti. Upon noticing the police presence, the accused attempted to flee but was promptly apprehended by the alert police personnel.

The accused has been identified as Vikas Kumar Sharma, former BDC member (Ex-BDC) and Ex-Sarpanch son of Darshan Kumar Sharma of Thill Hakima, Rajal Nowshera.

"During a personal search, approximately 10 grams of heroin was recovered from his possession," he said, adding, "Accordingly, an FIR has been registered at Police Station Nowshera under FIR 80/2025,

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9



Sunset: 19:41 Hours

Sunrise: 05:22 Hours

Max: 34.8°C

Max: 68

On receipt of complaint, official said, matter was verified discreetly which revealed that suspect Ghulam Rasool Bhat had demanded a bribe of Rs 1 Lakh from the complainant in lieu of two permissions for cutting of walnut trees, and the complainant had requested him that he can't afford the said amount as he is very poor, but Tehsildar insisted with his demand and asked complainant that unless he pay bribe of Rs 50,000 in advance he will not issue permissions, under compulsions

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Saturday participated International Yoga Day Celebration with Yoga enthusiasts and formed Asanas as per the laid down Common Yoga Protocol.

The Lieutenant Governor said that in today's fastpaced world, the importance of Yoga is immeasurable. "Yoga reduces stress and

enhances quality of life. This year's International

HC celebrates International Yoga Dav

Embracing Yoga as way of life can significantly

enhance judicial functions: CJ

CJ Arun Palli and others participating in International Yoga Day celebrations at Srinagar.

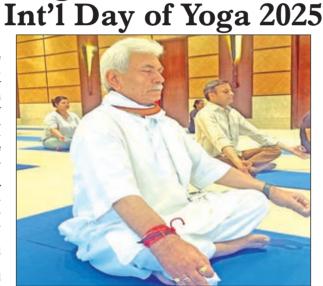
Yoga Day at High Court

Complex, Srinagar, with high

The event was inaugurated

by Chief Justice High Court

fervor and enthusiasm



LG joins Yoga enthusiasts to celebrate

its nationals from Iran: Embassy STATE TIMES NEWS

TEHRAN: India is evacuating all its citizens from Iran, the Indian mission here said on Saturday, amid Iran's ongoing conflict with Israel.

In a post on X, the Indian Embassy here provided emergency contact numbers and a link to a Telegram channel.

"The Indian Embassy in Iran is evacuating all Indian Nationals in Iran. The Embassy may be contacted either on the Telegram channel or over the emergency numbers contact + 9 8 9 0 1 0 1 4 4 5 5 7 , +989128109115

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Yoga Day theme, 'Yoga One Earth, One Health,' highlights holistic approach to health for humanity.

This ancient Indian tradition ensures mental and spiritual harmony in the society and harmonises the body, mind and spirit", said Lieutenant Governor.

Lieutenant Governor appealed to the people to incorporate Yoga into daily routines and motivate others to practice Yoga for a happy

ACB arrests absconding head constable in graft case in Kathua STATE TIMES NEWS plainant on account of delet-

JAMMU: The

Corruption Bureau (ACB) arrested Constable, Roshan Din of Police Station Kathua after a week-long hunt in a graft case in the district, an official on Saturday said. The official said, "A case

FIR No. 12/2025 under Section 7 of Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 was registered in Police Station ACB Jammu against public servant namely HC Roshan Din, No. 432/K of Police Station Kathua regarding demand/acceptance of illegal gratification from the com-

ing/removing his name from the list of accused persons in case FIR No. 193/2025 registered at P/S Kathua, even though the complainant provided CCTV footage/attendance of the factory to the accused public servant on the date of occurrence in order to prove his innocence.:

But, official added, accused public servant after accepting bribe amount of Rs 15000 from the complainant, sensing the presence of ACB on spot, fled away from the spot and threw the tainted bribe money in the ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Hope Israel, Iran stop attacking each other soon: Omar

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Saturday expressed hope that Israel and Iran will soon stop attacking each other and resolve their issues through

"We can only hope and pray that the war stops. The situation is bad. This should not have happened," Abdullah told reporters in central Kashmir's Ganderbal, his assembly constituency

Wondering on what basis Israel attacked Iran, he said, "A few days ago, the US intelligence in-charge said before the Senate and Congress that Iran is not closer to getting a nuclear

Unveils marriage hall, lays foundation for bridge

GANDERBAL: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Saturday inaugurated the newly constructed Community Marriage Hall and laid the foundation stone **■ CONTD ON PAGE 9**

weapon. So, if America felt that a few days ago, then why

did Israel attack Iran?"

Tariq Karra's shameful handkerchief insult unmasks Congress'



STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The High

Court of Jammu & Kashmir

and Ladakh on Saturday cel-

ful picture of Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee President Tariq Hameed Karra - covering his hand with a handkerchief while shaking hands with a Dalit family - has shocked the entire nation. This is not just repre-

nensible because Karra is insulting Dalits but a chilling reminder of how deeply ingrained caste arrogance continues to plague the Congress and other oseudo seculars, who leave no opportunity to divide the Hindu society for their nefarious political agendas-divide and rule

In a country where the Constitution enshrines equality and the right to dignity for every citizen, the actions of politicians like Tariq Karra speak volumes about the ground reality.

This single gesture has unmasked the true face of the Congress that keeps trumpeting the Dalit card and sheds crocodile tears on the plight of the downtrodden and socially marginalized. By instinctively using a handkerchief to avoid skin contact, Karra did not just insult the family standing before him he insulted the very idea of equality, the spirit of the Constitution, and the soul of India. It is this kind of

caste-based prejudice on public display by none other than a leader of a party that never fails to lecture others on inclusion

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

of Jammu & Kashmir and

The Chief Justice stressed

upon all the participants

Ladakh, Arun Palli.

Such behavior cannot be seen in isolation. It is reflective of a larger rot within the Congress party one that has long mastered the art of exploiting caste identities not for empowerment, but for political gains. Congress's brand of secularism, which has now morphed into selective appearement, is built not on genuine upliftment of weaker sections but on deepening social fissures to engineer vote banks. What Karra did was not a momentary lapse in judgment; it was a display of an ingrained mindset that views certain sections of society as children of lesser

This is the same Congress that chants the mantra of "social justice" during elections but routinely fails to walk the talk when it matters. The handkerchief was not just fabric - it was a symbol of untouchability, of an internalized bias that sees Dalits as impure. Is this the leadership that roams around with a red book of the Constitution and claims to represent the ideals of Ambedkar?

The Congress, alongside its ecosystem of selfdeclared secularists, has for decades played a dangerous game of identity politics. By constantly categorizing citizens into vote-worthy silos - Dalits, minorities, tribes - they have encouraged a politics of division. Far from creating unity, their actions deepen social insecurities and perpetuate the very divisions they claim to combat. The incident with Karra is a shameful example of how this divisive politics manifests itself even in seemingly routine interac-

Karra's shameful act must be examined within the broader context of an ongoing ideological war against India's civilizational identity. Pseudo-secular forces, under the garb of protecting the "idea of India," have consistently aligned themselves to fragment the nation - not just politically but culturally. From stoking fears among minority communities to undermining the very foundation of Hindu society through caste fragmentation, the objective has remained singular: to destabilize the social equilibrium of the nation.

It is no coincidence that these very forces - the Congress and its allies, infamously known as INDI Alliance- are actively courting extremist narratives and using emotional manipulation to effect a demographic and cultural shift. Their selective outrage, silence on real atrocities, and overemphasis on fabricated grievances expose their long-term agenda. The handkerchief was not just an object - it was a metaphor for the disdain these elites feel for the very

The disgraceful symbolism of Karra's act must not be lost on the Dalit community. It is an insult to every Dalit who has fought and continues to fight for equality. It is an affront to the legacy of Dr. B.R Ambedkar, who envisioned a casteless society rooted in justice, liberty, and fraternity. To allow such incidents to pass without consequence is to betray that

The nation must ask: if this is how Congress leaders behave when cameras are rolling, how do the treat the marginalized when no one is watching? The Congress must apologise and remove Karra from his position. The party must understand that no amount of sloganeering can whitewash such a vile act. Anything less would be a tacit approval of casteist behavior. It is not only the Congress that has been exploiting Dalits but others too want to use them for their sinister agenda like Gazwa-e-Hind by

dividing the Hindu society in general. It is time to reject the elements like Karra, who exploit caste for politics while privately upholding its worst prejudices. What Karra did was not just offensive - it was symbolic of a much larger problem. And until such casteist arrogance is not just condemned but uprooted from our politics, the dream of a truly equal India will remain just a dream.