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Air surcharge 50 paise for Leh

03 Dr Jitendra leaves for France to lead high-level official Indian Delegation

10 J&K's Kabaddi star Lucky Sharma determined to represent India

10 J&K Bodybuilders selected to represent India at South Asian, Mr Asia, Mr World Championships

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Chairs 49th Board meeting of SASB Safety, well-being of Shri Amarnathji pilgrims our top-most priority: LG Sinha

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha chaired the 49th Board meeting of Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board (SASB) at Raj Bhawan, on Saturday.

The meeting was attended by Members of the Shrine Board- Swami Avdheshanand Giri Ji Maharaj, Prof. Kailash Mehra Sadhu, K.K.Sharma, K.N.Rai, Shri Mukesh Garg, Dr. Shailesh Raina, Dr. Simridhi Bindroo, Suresh Haware and Prof. Vishwamurti Shastri.

The Board, which met under the chairmanship of Lieutenant Governor held a comprehensive review of the preparedness of all the line departments and proposed various measures and interventions to further improve the facilities for the devotees.

The meeting discussed the arrangements and requisite



LG Manoj Sinha chairing 49th Board meeting of Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board on Saturday.

amenities at base camps and various locations enroute Yatra including Disaster preparedness and mitigation measures, dissemination of Yatra-related information, insurance cover to yatrins and service providers, upgradation of Yatra Tracks, provision for sanitation water, power, transportation, and medical & health care facilities, telecom connectivity, Weather Forecasting, Digital Pre-paid system for hiring

services, fire & emergency services, and civil supplies.

The Lieutenant Governor took appraisal of the progress on various ongoing projects and directed for ensuring completion of the identified works well in time for the convenience of the pilgrims.

"Safety and well-being of the Pilgrims is our top-most priority. We are committed to provide better facilities and amenities to ensure a hassle-

free and spiritually enriching experience for all the pilgrims," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The meeting also discussed important matters pertaining to establishment of Yatri Niwas and Transit camps at various locations enroute, enhancement of lodgement capacity, expansion of the Pilgrims is our top-most priority. We are committed to provide better facilities and amenities to ensure a hassle-

RFID cards, registration and verification of pilgrims and service providers, Langar and NGO Services.

Dr Mandeep K. Bhandari, Chief Executive Officer, Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board, gave a detailed presentation regarding the arrangements for the Yatra.

It was informed that around 3,31,000 devotees have registered for the holy yatra for this year, till date.

This year, Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra will commence on 3rd July, simultaneously from both the routes - the Pahalgam track in Anantnag district and Baltal in Ganderbal district and it will culminate on 9th August, 2025 on Raksha Bandhan.

Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Shaleen Kabra, Additional Chief Secretary, Jal Shakti Department; Nalin Prabhat,

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Modi lays down 5 priorities for building disaster-resilient infra

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday outlined five key global priorities for him to build disaster-resilient infrastructure, including a skilled workforce, a global digital repository to document best practices and innovative financing.

In a video address to the International Conference on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure 2025, Modi said strengthening early-warning systems and coordination is another crucial aspect.

He noted that India has established a tsunami-mi-warning system benefitting 29 countries and that it recognises the Small Island Developing States (SIDA) as large-ocean countries and the need for special attention to their vulnerabilities.

With the event being hosted in Europe for the first time,

Modi thanked French President Emmanuel Macron and extended his

the vulnerability of coastal regions and islands to natural disasters and climate change.



best wishes to him for the upcoming United Nations Oceans Conference.

In his remarks, he prime minister noted that the conference's theme is "Shaping a Resilient Future for Coastal Regions" and underscored

forcing the need for resilient infrastructure and proactive disaster management.

Recalling India's past experiences with devastating disasters, including the super-cyclone of 1999 and

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India following 'zero-tolerance' policy on terror: EAM

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: India is practising a policy of "zero toler-



ance" against terrorism, and it will never countenance perpetrators of evil being put on par with its victims, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said on Saturday during wide-ranging talks with his British counterpart David Lammy.

The remarks came amid unease in New Delhi over several countries hyphenating India and Pakistan following their four-day clashes last month.

Lammy arrived in New Delhi this morning on a two-day visit to review various aspects of the strategic partnership between the two countries.

In his televised opening remarks, Jaishankar also thanked the UK for its strong condemnation of the "barbaric" Pahalgam terror attack and London's support to New Delhi's fight

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Eid-ul-Adha celebrated across Jammu region with fervour

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Hundreds of Muslims offered prayers across the Jammu region as they celebrated Eid-ul-Adha on Saturday with deep religious devotion and a joyful spirit.

Large crowds gathered at mosques and Eidgahs to offer special prayers across the ten districts of the region, with the largest congregation offering namaz at the Eidgah in Jammu city.

Other smaller congregations were held at various mosques throughout Jammu, including the Mecca Masjid.



Muslim brethren offering prayers at Eidgah in Jammu.

Following the prayers, people performed the traditional sacrifice of animals such as sheep, goats and cattle, commemorating the faith and devotion of Prophet Ibrahim.

Officials said all Eid gatherings passed off peacefully across the region.

Security was tightened to ensure a peaceful celebration.

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Chugh demands ECI to ban Kejriwal, Sisodia facing criminal charges to campaign in Ludhiana

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

LUDHIANA/CHANDIGARH: BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh said on Saturday demanded that the Election Commission of India (ECI) immediately bans election campaigning conducted by the AAP leaders, who are facing criminal charges.

Taking a strong exception to the campaigning being done by Arvind Kejriwal and Manish Sisodia, he demanded that they should be pro-

hibited from entering the East Ludhiana Assembly constituency.

Chugh said Kejriwal has been plotting a backdoor entry to the Rajya Sabha from Punjab for which Kejriwal has been playing dubious games, which have been a big insult to the Punjabis.

Demanding immediate intervention of the ECI, Chugh said AAP leaders

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Extreme poverty in India down to 5.3 pc in 2022-23: World Bank

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: India's extreme poverty rate declined sharply to 5.3 per cent over a decade from 27.1 per cent in 2011-12 even as the World Bank revised upwards its threshold poverty line to USD 3 per day.

Given India's inflation rate between 2017 and 2021, a revised extreme poverty line of USD 3 would constitute a 15 per cent higher threshold than USD 2.15 expressed in 2021 prices and result in a 5.3 per cent poverty rate in 2022-23, the World Bank said in a report.

As against 34 crore people below poverty line (USD 3/per day) in 2011-12, the numbers have come down to 7.5 crore in 2022-23 in absolute numbers.

The World Bank has announced a major revision to global poverty estimates, raising the International Poverty Line (IPL) from USD 2.15/day (2017 PPP) to USD 3/day (2021 PPP), according to a factsheet issued by the

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■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Saturday extended his heartiest congratulations to the Vice Chancellor, faculty, staff, and students of University of Kashmir for attaining the prestigious A++ Grade by National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), and securing an outstanding Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of 3.68 on a seven-point scale.

Calling it a proud moment for J&K UT, the Lieutenant Governor said the A++

» LG congratulates KU for achieving prestigious A++ Grade by NAAC

» Says, it is matter of pride that two universities of J&K - JU with CGPA Score of 3.72 and KU with CGPA Score of 3.68, have achieved A++ Grade: LG

» This is rare phenomenon in academic history where two Universities of a UT have achieved this honour

» This achievement was realised due to dedication of our faculty members, VCs, non-teaching staff and invaluable contribution by country's top higher education experts who tirelessly worked in the past 5 years to transform J&K's Universities, Colleges into Centres of Excellence

Grade places the University of Kashmir among the top

institutions in the country, further strengthening its role

as a beacon of knowledge and innovation.

"It is a matter of pride that two universities of J&K UT- University of Jammu with CGPA Score of 3.72 and University of Kashmir with CGPA Score of 3.68, have achieved A++ Grade. This is a rare phenomenon in academic history where two Universities of a Union Territory have achieved this honour," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor dedicated this outstanding achievement to the faculty members, Vice

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Pursuit of excellence in education, innovation continues to build Viksit J&K: LG

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

REASI: As Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated a prestigious railway project connecting Kashmir to the rest of the country on Friday, fulfilling Maharaja Pratap Singh's century-old dream, the Indian Railways remembered the pivotal role of the armed forces' helicopters in ferrying men and machines to the remote and cut-off region to script history.

The use of helicopters proved to be a game changer, not only in building more than 215 kilometres of approach roads through mountainous terrain, linking around 70 remote villages, but also in paving the way for human resource deployment and the construction of three engineering marvels -- the world's highest railway bridge, the country's biggest



cable-stayed bridge and the longest transportation tunnel in India.

"The helicopters of the armed forces played a pivotal role in transforming the dream of connecting

Kashmir by rail into reality. They ferried men and machines to begin work in unconnected regions that made this train to Kashmir possible," a senior railway officer told PTL.

He said the Reasi-Ramban belt was remote and largely inaccessible and initially, labourers and engineers had to trek on foot to undertake basic project work.

Former Railway Board

Preventive detention extraordinary power of state that must be used sparingly: SC

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Preventive detention is an extraordinary power in the hands of the state that must be used sparingly, said the Supreme Court as it set aside an order of a district magistrate to detain a money lender who was allegedly indulging in illegal activities again after getting bail in four cases.

A bench of Justices Sanjay Karol and Mannohan questioned the contention of the detaining authority that the order was

passed as the detainee was violating bail conditions in the cases, and noted that they should have instead



moved the competent court seeking cancellation of bail. "Therefore, the order of detention dated June 20,

2024, and the impugned judgment dated September 4, 2024, passed by the High Court of Kerala at Ernakulam are hereby set aside. In the attending facts and circumstances of this case, the appeal is allowed," the bench said in its order passed on Friday.

Noting that the power of preventive detention finds recognition in the Constitution under Article 22(3)(b),

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WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 39.8°C Min: 26.1°C

Humidity
Max: 48 Min: 33

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 31.4°C Min: 16.5°C

Humidity
Max: 61 Min: 36

Sunset : 19:36 Hours
Sunrise : 05:22 Hours

