

02 NIA Court Kulgam issues non-bailable warrant against active terrorist

03 Mayor leads JMC team to market, distributes DRDO made bio-degradable carry bags

09 Three killed, 1 injured in Doda road accident

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Modi cites East India Company, PFI, IM to hit back at Opposition alliance

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday derided the opposition alliance INDIA as the most directionless the country had ever seen and cited reviled names such as East India Company and Indian Mujahideen to assert that people cannot be misled merely by the use of the country's name.

Multiple leaders present at the BJP parliamentary party meeting addressed by Modi said he was severe in his criticism of the opposition amid the continuing logjam in Parliament and sounded confident of the ruling dispensation retaining power at the Centre for a third term after the 2024 Lok Sabha polls.

The opposition has sunk deep in despair and is directionless, he said, according to Union minister Pralhad Joshi. Its conduct suggests that it has reconciled to remain in opposition for a long time, Modi said.

With opposition parties rallying around the name 'INDIA' for their alliance, the prime minister cited the history of several organisations, including some banned extremist and terror outfits using the country's name, and panned the grouping as a collection of corrupt leaders and parties.



Even the Indian National Congress, the main opposition party, was named so by an Englishman A O Hume, he said, according to sources.

Organisations that wanted to rule and break the country, which wanted to divide it have used names like 'India' and 'Indian' to mislead people, he said, naming Indian Mujahideen and Popular Front of India.

People have now matured and will not be misled by such nomenclature, he asserted.

Some people may be saying that this is

the last year of the government but it is not the end but merely a beginning, he asserted even as he cautioned against any complacency despite the weak opposition, saying one has to drive with care even on a mostly empty road.

Reacting to his remarks, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi said "call us whatever you want", but "we are INDIA" and will rebuild the idea of India in Manipur. Speaking in the Rajya Sabha, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge said while "we are talking about Manipur, which is burning", the prime minister is "talking about East India (Company)" and saying INDIA means East India (Company)".

Joshi told reporters that Modi likened the current atmosphere in and about the country to a "new dawn", noting the mood of optimism and hope about the nation globally.

Sources said an assured prime minister asked BJP MPs to note down his assertion and the date, while speaking about a new consciousness spreading in the country and conveying confidence about people's support to the ruling party in the next polls.

He referred to an earlier speech by External Affairs ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

LG pays homage to Kargil war brave hearts

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday paid homage to the bravehearts of Kargil War on the eve of "Kargil Vijay Diwas".

"On Kargil Vijay Diwas, I pay my tributes to the valiant soldiers, officers, who displayed magnificent valour and the spirit of sacrifice to protect the sovereignty and integrity of the motherland," the Lt Governor said.

"I respectfully bow down to the families of our Kargil War heroes. We are forever indebted to them for their sacrifices and service to the nation", he added.

No infiltration into J&K till June-end: MoS Home

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: No terrorist could infiltrate into Jammu and Kashmir till June 30 this year while 14 terrorists entered the Union Territory in 2022, Union Minister of State for Home Nitayanand Rai said in Lok Sabha on Tuesday.

Rai said the approach adopted by Government of India to tackle cross-border infiltration has ensured a perceptible decline in infiltration.

There has been zero "net infiltration" into Jammu and Kashmir till June 30, 2023, 14 in 2022, 34 in 2021, 51 in 2020 and 141 in 2019, he

Pak intruder killed; narcotic smuggling bid foiled along IB in Samba

SAMBA: A Pakistani intruder, trying to smuggle over four kilograms of suspected high-grade heroin worth crores of rupees, was killed along the International Border (IB) in Samba district, a senior BSF officer said on Tuesday.

The major narcotics smuggling bid was scuttled by the alert border guards in Ramgarh sector late Monday night, Deputy Inspector General of BSF Vijay Thapliyal said.

Talking to reporters near the scene, he said BSF troops picked up suspicious movement of a Pakistani smuggler around 10.15 pm Monday and neutralised him.

"The body of the deceased along with four packets of narcotics with a total weight of 4.340 kgs ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

said replying to a written question.

The minister said the Government of India has adopted a well-coordinated

and multi-pronged strategy to tackle cross-border infiltration, which includes tactical deployment of forces ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

J&K Bank to launch another OTS scheme to bring down NPAs: MD & CEO

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir Bank will launch another one-time settlement scheme for defaulters to bring down its non-performing assets, MD and CEO Baldev Prakash has said.

The Jammu and Kashmir Bank is already following a humane approach towards loan recovery, Prakash told PTL.

"We are doing it within the law. We have already given



two OTS schemes for the defaulters and a large number of them have benefited already.

"We will be launching

another OTS very soon which shall remain in force for at least three months. My appeal to the people (defaulters) is to avail the scheme and settle their dues," he said.

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday said both public and private banks have been instructed that harsh steps should not be taken when it comes to the process of loan repayment and that

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Landslide hits Kishtwar, one killed

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KISHTWAR: One labourer was killed and another injured when a landslide struck a road construction site in Kishtwar district on Tuesday, officials said. Abid Hussain (25) and Musharraf (23), both residents of Kuchal village, came under the landslide at Sumbal in the Chatroo area, they said.

The officials said trapped labourers were retrieved and shifted to a hospital where Hussain was declared brought dead.

Machail Mata Yatra begins amid tight security in Kishtwar



ADGP Jammu zone, Mukesh Singh and DC Kishtwar Devansh Yadav visiting Shrine in Paddar valley.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The annual Machail Mata pilgrimage commenced on Tuesday with hundreds of devotees paying

their obeisance at the high-altitude temple in Kishtwar district, officials said.

Additional Director General of Police, Jammu

zone, Mukesh Singh and Kishtwar Deputy Commissioner Devansh Yadav visited the 9705 feet high shrine in the scenic Paddar valley, also famous for its Sapphire mines.

"Compared to previous years, the deputy commissioner Kishtwar has added more facilities like mobile towers to ensure better connectivity for the pilgrims besides medical facilities," Singh told reporters.

He said adequate security arrangements are in place throughout the route for the safety of the pilgrims who

NIA Court rejects bail of LeT linked terrorist

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Additional Sessions Judge Baramulla Pawan Kumar Sharma rejected the bail application of alleged terrorist namely Imtiyaz Ahmad Ganie who was booked by Police Station Sopore in case FIR 217/2022 offence under Section 7/25 A. Act, 18,18-B, 20,23,38,39 of ULA(P) Act.

During the course of hearing APP opposed the bail plea and submitted that the offences in which petitioner is involved carries punishment up to life imprisonment and there is credible evidence against him showing

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Dr Ashutosh new Prpl GMC Jammu; Dr Sudan posted as Seey Technical H&ME

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Principal Government Medical College (GMC) Jammu Shashi Sudan Sharma on Tuesday posted as Secretary (Technical) in the Health and Medical Education Department.

Ashutosh Gupta, Head of Department of Radiotherapy, will now hold the charge as the Principal

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HC upholds detention of JeM member under PSA

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU : Justice M.A Chowdhary Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court upholds the detention under Public Safety Act of Fayaz Ahmed Kumar who is an active member of JeM.

While dismissing the petition, Justice M.A Chowdhary observed that detention is not a curative

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Another batch of pilgrims leaves for Amarnath yatra

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A fresh batch of over 3,000 pilgrims left here for the Amarnath cave shrine in south Kashmir Himalayas on Tuesday, officials said.

While 1,160 pilgrims left in a convoy of 38 vehicles for the Baltal base camp, another convoy of 81 vehicles carrying 1,865 pilgrims left for Pahalgam.

Over 3.30 lakh pilgrims have so far paid obeisance at the shrine since the

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CS calls for 100 pc Aadhar enrolment

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta on Tuesday impressed upon all the concerned Departments to ensure 100 percent Aadhaar registration of individuals by activating all the enrollment centres run by them and optimum utilization of available gadgets.

He made the directions while chairing a meeting of the Unique Identification Implementation Committee (UIDIC) here at Civil Secretariat.

The meeting was attended by Administrative Secretaries, officials from UIDAI,



Chief Secretary A K Mehta chairing UIDIC meeting for 100 pc recent Aadhar enrollment.

Commissioners Kashmir/Jammu and representatives from various government departments.

Commissioner Secretary, IT, Prerna Puri, commenced the proceedings by present-

ing an overview of the Aadhaar situation in Jammu and Kashmir. It was reported that till date, 121,96,367 Aadhaar numbers have been generated, resulting in a

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

DPAP Govt if elected will focus more on development of border areas in J&K: Azad



Chairman DPAP Ghulam Nabi Azad addressing gathering during his second day at Gurez.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

GUREZ: Chairman Democratic Progressive Azad Party Ghulam Nabi Azad on Tuesday assured people of Gurez that if elected DPAP government will focus more on development of border areas of Jammu and Kashmir.

This assurance was given by Ghulam Nabi Azad during his meeting with scores of delegation comprising Sarpanchs, Panchs, social and political activists who joined DPAP in his presence here today.

"There has been total vacuum when it comes to develop-

mental push in Gurez as I travelled by road this time with infrastructure in shambles. The DPAP government, if elected, will ensure that a special package is implemented for border areas of Jammu and Kashmir," assured Azad.

He said Gurez like Karnah, Keran remain cut off during heavy snowfall and normal life gets affected in these border areas which makes it imperative to improve on all sectors, be it health, roads, education, electricity and communication.

"There must be no impact on life in border areas due to heavy snowfall, incessant rains or landslides which means more emphasis has to be given on arrangements

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