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SHAPING INDIA

03 Jammu Mayor detects 'blunder' in culvert, talks tough to Executive Engineer

03 Early detection key to control diabetes, cure several cancers: Dr Jitendra

10 JK Public School Panjtirthi observes Kargil Vijay Diwas

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Crucial BJP rejig: Tarun Chugh retained as National Gen Secretary

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: In a crucial rejig ahead of 2024 general elections, Bharatiya Janata Party on Saturday announced a cohesive team to steer the world's largest political party to third successive term under Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The BJP announced appointment of 13 vice presidents, nine general secretaries and nine secretaries after an exhaustive meeting presided over by the party president J.P. Nadda. Importantly, Tarun Chugh was retained and reappointed as the General Secretary, which is seen as a record of sorts, given the fact that since the inception of the BJP, none of the party leaders from Punjab has made to the coveted position at the national level.

The BJP picked politically sagacious and dynamic Tarun Chugh of the renowned Taksali family of Amritsar to hold the important organizational position

as National General Secretary in 2021 in view of his track political record in various capacities. He is the first son of soil from Punjab to have risen as National General Secretary of the BJP, which is a record. Whosoever acquired any organizational position in the BJP from Punjab at the national level has never got extension or elevation. Tarun Chugh is the first national level functionary who served the party at the apex level four times and is credited to be National General Secretary for the successive second term.

An able strategist, politician with qualities of head and heart, having immense managerial and organiza-



tional skills with unmatched political foresight, the role of Tarun Chugh behind the scenes has all along been appreciated by the top BJP leadership, which is why younger generations of the party always seek guidance from him on important policy matters and issues of public importance.

The journey of Tarun Chugh from the booth level work of Tarnah Bridge at National Highway-44 and in order to ensure smooth plying of traffic, heavy vehicles (Trucks, Tankers, Trollers) shall be routed/diverted from Lakhampur Basohli Morh to Dhar road for onward journey till further orders," reads an order issued by Dr. Rakesh Minhas, District Magistrate Kathua.

CONTD ON PAGE 9

Tarnah Bridge repair work; heavy vehicles shall divert to Dhar Road

STATE TIMES NEWS
KATHUA: Heavy vehicles shall be routed/diverted from Lakhampur-Basohli Morh to Dhar road in view of ongoing repair work of Tarnah Bridge at National Highway-44.

"In view of ongoing repair work of Tarnah Bridge at National Highway-44 and in order to ensure smooth plying of traffic, heavy vehicles (Trucks, Tankers, Trollers) shall be routed/diverted from Lakhampur Basohli Morh to Dhar road for onward journey till further orders," reads an order issued by Dr. Rakesh Minhas, District Magistrate Kathua.

Three inspectors transferred

STATE TIMES NEWS
RAJOURI: District Police Office Rajouri on Saturday transferred three Inspectors.

As per order, Inspector Aejaz Ahmed has been transferred and posted as SHO Rajouri vice Inspector Mohd Shoket, who on his promotion as DySP, has

CONTD ON PAGE 9

LG joins Youm-e-Ashoorah's Zuljinah procession at Botakadal, Downtown Srinagar



LG Manoj Sinha participating in Youm-e-Ashoorah's Zuljinah procession at Srinagar on Saturday.

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, on Youm-e-Ashoorah, the 10th day of Muharram, joined the Zuljinah procession at Botakadal, Downtown area of Srinagar, on Saturday.

"I pay my tributes to Hazrat Imam Hussain (AS) and his companions. Their sacrifice for righteousness and greater good of humankind serves as a beacon light for the world," the

Lt Governor said.

The administration has made necessary arrangements for the smooth conduct of the procession from Botakadal to Imambargah Zaidibal. The Lt Governor also offered Chaddar to Zuljinah and served refreshments among mourners on the occasion.

Earlier, on July 27th, the 8th Muharram procession was taken out in the Kashmir Valley on the tradi-

tional route, from Guru Bazar to Dalgate, Srinagar after 34 years.

This is the first time in the last 35 years that a head of the state here has joined the Muharram procession, officials said.

The administration had on Thursday allowed the Eighth day Muharram procession to pass through the traditional route from Gurubazaar to Dalgate -- a first in 34 years.

Senior officials from the police and civil administration accompanied the LG, officials said.

The day marks the martyrdom of Hazrat Imam Hussain -- the grandson of Prophet Mohammad -- and his companions in Karbala in Iraq.

Taking to Twitter, the LG paid his tributes to Hazrat Imam Hussain.

"Today on Youm-e-Ashoorah joined the Zuljinah procession at Botakadal, Srinagar's Downtown and paid my tributes to Hazrat

CONTD ON PAGE 9

We hope PM speaks in Parliament soon on Manipur situation: Farooq

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: National Conference (NC) president Farooq Abdullah on Saturday said opposition parties want peace in strife-torn Manipur and hoped Prime Minister Narendra Modi speaks in Parliament soon on the situation in the state.

"A delegation of the opposition has gone to Manipur. When they return, we will get to know from them about the situation there," Abdullah told reporters here.

"We want peace to be established there so that those who live there can live in peace and the communal

fight which has started be stopped. We should try to live together. A solution will come only when all the communities there live with dignity," the Lok Sabha MP from Srinagar said.

Referring to the recent video of two women being paraded in Manipur, Abdullah said he could not get himself to watch it.

"God knows how many more are getting killed there. We should pray to God to rid us of this difficult time. We hope that the prime minister speaks soon in Parliament so that Parliament functions smoothly," he said.

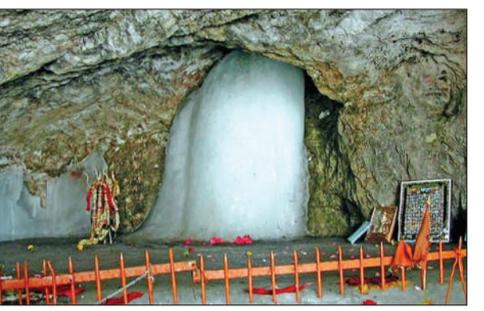
CONTD ON PAGE 9

Fresh batch of over 2,000 pilgrims leaves Jammu for Amarnath cave

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: A fresh batch of more than 2,000 pilgrims left Jammu city in a convoy of 87 vehicles early Saturday morning for the two base camps in Kashmir to undertake the annual Amarnath pilgrimage, officials said.

This was the lowest-strength batch of Lord Shiva devotees leaving the Bhagwati Nagar base camp in Jammu since the first batch flagged off by Lt Governor Manoj Sinha on June 30.

The 62-day-long yatra had started from the twin base camps of Pahalgam in



Anantnag district and Baltal in Ganderbal district the next day.

About 3.78 lakh pilgrims have so far paid their visit to the cave shrine located at the height of 3,880 metres in south Kashmir Himalayas, and which ensconces the naturally formed ice-shivling

CONTD ON PAGE 9

Woman jumps into river in Doda; accuses in-laws of harassment

STATE TIMES NEWS
BHADERWAH: A woman was feared drowned after she jumped into the Chenab river in Doda district, shortly after posting a video on her social media account claiming harassment by her husband and in-laws.

Anju Devi, a resident of Gundana village, reportedly jumped into the river near Pul Doda around 10 am, officials said.

Later, a 6.28-minute video of the woman went viral on the social media, claiming that she was committing suicide due to the alleged harassment by her husband, his brother and sister-in-law.

"I am heartbroken after both my children, one studying in class 9 and another in class 6, were enticed. They were living with me for the past three years and I was raising them by working as domestic help I was left with no reason to live," the wailing woman said.

She accused her husband of beating, confining her in bathroom and claimed that she was being subjected to constant harassment by his sister-in-law and her husband.

"They are responsible for my death," Devi said and demanded that her

CONTD ON PAGE 9

Army commander visits Sharda temple in Kupwara

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: General Officer Commanding of the Srinagar-based Chinara Corps Lt Gen Rajiv Ghai paid obeisance at the Sharda temple near the Line of Control (LoC) in Kupwara district on Saturday.

Lt Gen Ghai, accompanied by his wife, visited the temple and a gurdwara in Teetval area of the north Kashmir district, Save Sharda Committee chairman Ravinder Pandita said in a statement.

He said GoC of the Kupwara-based Vajr Division Major General Girish Kalia was also present.

Pandita said this was the first visit of Lt Gen Ghai to Teetval after taking over as the General Officer Commanding (GoC) Chinara Corps last month.

The renovated Mata Sharda Devi temple was inaugurated by Union Home Minister Amit Shah virtually in March this year.

CS for universal screening of UT population for NCD

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta on Saturday asked the health professionals to screen the whole population of the Union Territory for Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) like Hypertension, Diabetes and common types of cancers.

While chairing a review meeting of the performance of National Health Mission (NHM) on Saturday, the Chief Secretary maintained that the NCD are major cause of deaths across the globe, and their early diagnosis could lead to better prevention and cure of such diseases. He asked for organizing camps all across J&K for conducting free screening of people.

Dr Mehta also observed that there is still scope for improvement in institutional births despite it being ahead of national average. He also emphasised on further improving the ranking of the UT in SDG goals related to health.



CS A K Mehta chairing a meeting at Srinagar.

machinery and poorly managed infrastructure in the hospitals of the UT. He made out that the Department should make a plan to repair all of such machines and upgrading the infrastructure to put it to optimal use for the benefit of general public.

He asked for instituting mechanism for screening all school going children of J&K by the Department. He directed them to visit the far-off schools and Anganwadi Centres for the purpose. He directed the concerned to extend every support to children requiring any kind of medical assistance and popularize the same so that

CONTD ON PAGE 9

Narco-terrorism case: SIA raids in Poonch



STATE TIMES NEWS
POONCH: The State Investigation Agency (SIA) on Saturday conducted raids at several places in connection with a narco-terrorism case in Poonch district, officials said.

The raids are still going on at four places in Mandi Tehsil of the border district, the officials said.

They said the case relates to notorious drug peddler Rafiq Lala, a resident of Danna Doyiyana area of Sathra who was

CONTD ON PAGE 9

Landmine exploded near LoC in Poonch

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: A landmine exploded near the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district in the early hours of Saturday but there was no report of any damage, officials said.

The landmine exploded around 4 am amid incessant rains near the Khokhri post in Terwan village of the Degwar area, the officials said.

They said Army troops immediately conducted a search of the area but nothing was found.

The forward areas along the LoC are dotted

CONTD ON PAGE 9

WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 30.8°C Min: 24.5°C

Humidity
Max: 98 Min: 77

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 26.2°C Min: 16.3°C

Humidity
Max: 97 Min: 58

Sunset : 19:28 Hours
Sunrise : 05:35 Hours

Those doing politics over language to run 'nafrat ki dukaan' will have to shut shop after NEP: Modi

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: The New National Education Policy (NEP) will give due importance to every language in the country, doing justice to students and forcing those who do politics over language for spreading hate to shut shop, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Saturday.

Delivering the inaugural address at an event to mark the third anniversary of the launch of the NEP, Modi said judging students on the basis of their language instead of their capabilities is the biggest injustice to them.

"The National Educational Policy will give due respect and credit to every language in the country... Those who do politics over language for their selfish interests to run their 'nafrat ki dukaan' (business of spreading hate) will now have to shut shop,"



Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressing at inauguration of Akhil Bhartiya Shiksha Samagam at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi on Saturday.

that several developed countries have got an edge owing to their focus on local languages.

Giving the example of Europe, he said most countries make use of their own native languages. Modi lamented that even though India has an array of established languages, they were presented as a sign of backwardness and those who cannot speak English were neglected and their talent was not recognised.

"What can be more unfortunate than this... Children in the rural areas were the most affected. The country has now begun to shun this inferiority complex with the advent of the NEP. Even at the United Nations, I speak in Indian language," he added.

Modi underlined that subjects ranging from social science to engineering will now be taught in Indian languages. "When

CONTD ON PAGE 9

Hybrid terrorist arrested in Srinagar

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: An Al Badr hybrid terrorist, who was planning terror activities here, was arrested with arms and ammunition on Saturday, police said.

Acting on specific intelligence, a small team of Srinagar Police arrested a hybrid terrorist linked with proscribed terrorist outfit Al-Badr identified as Arfat Yusuf son of Mohd Yusuf Khan resident of Rajpora Pulwama from Batamaloo area of Srinagar. Incriminating materials alongwith arms & ammunition including a Pistol, 20 live rounds, 02 magazines have been recovered from his possession. Preliminary investigation reveals that he

CONTD ON PAGE 9