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World's highest rail bridge, Asia's longest road tunnel in Udhampur LS constituency: Dr Jitendra

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Man dies in police lockup in Udhampur; family protest, inquiry ordered

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Wushu selection trial for World C'ship from Aug 1

Modi announces ‘Meri Maati Mera Desh’ campaign to honour martyrs

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday announced that a 'Meri Maati Mera Desh' campaign will be launched in the run up to Independence Day to honour the martyred bravehearts of the country.

In his monthly Mann Ki Baat radio broadcast, Modi said that with 'Amrit Mohatsav' resonating everywhere and August 15 near, a big campaign is being launched in the country -- 'Meri Maati Mera Desh'.

He said the campaign will be launched to honour the martyred bravehearts and programmes will be organised across India in memory of those who laid down their lives for the country.

"Special inscriptions will be installed in lakhs of village panchayats of the country in memory of these personalities," Modi said.

An 'Amrit Kalash Yatra' will also be taken out during



this campaign, he said.

"This 'Amrit Kalash Yatra', carrying the soil in 7,500 'kalash' from villages and various corners of the country, will reach Delhi. This yatra will also carry plants from various parts of the country. From 7,500 kalash, soil and plants that will come, an 'Amrit Vatika' will

be built close to the National War Memorial," the Prime Minister said.

In his radio address, Modi also hailed the changes made by the government in the Haj policy in the past few years and said now more and more people are getting an opportunity to go for the annual pilgrimage.

Over 4,000 women were able to perform Haj without 'Mehram' or a male companion which he said was a "big change", the prime minister said.

He said Muslim women who recently came back from Haj wrote to him.

"Their Haj was very special as they performed the pilgrimage without 'Mehram'. Their number is not 50 or 100 but over 4,000. This is a big change," Modi said while pointing out that earlier Muslim women were not allowed to perform Haj without 'Mehram'.

"Through Mann ki Baat, I would also like to thank the Saudi Government," he said.

"The changes made in the Haj policy in the last few years are being appreciated. Our Muslim mothers and sisters have written a lot to me. Now more and more people are getting an opportunity to go for Haj," the prime

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1,974 pilgrims leave from Jammu for Amarnathji Yatra

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
JAMMU: A fresh batch of 1,974 pilgrims, including 363 women, left Jammu city in a convoy of 85 vehicles early Sunday for the twin base camps in Kashmir to perform the annual Amarnath pilgrimage, officials said.

Over 3.85 lakh pilgrims have so far paid their obeisance at the shrine since the beginning of the 62-day-long yatra on July 1.

The yatra is scheduled to end on Shravan Purnima coinciding with Raksha Bandhan festival on August 31 with the holy mace of lord Shiva reaching the shrine.

The 28th batch of pilgrims comprising 1,974 pilgrims, who also included 45 Sadhus and 16 Sadhis, left Bhagwati Nagar base camp in Jammu for Kashmir in a convoy of 85 vehicles escorted by security personnel between 3.30 am and 3.45 am, an official said.

While 1,410 pilgrims are performing the

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Army jawan goes missing from Kulgam, massive search ops launched



■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
SRINAGAR: An army soldier on leave has gone missing from his native Kulgam district of Jammu and Kashmir leading to security forces launching a massive search and rescue operation, officials said on Sunday. The father of the soldier, posted in the Ladakh region, said he was supposed to join work on Sunday.

Javid Ahmad Wani, a resident of Achathal area of Kulgam district, went missing on Saturday evening. His car was found at Paranhall, they said. His father has appealed to those who might have

MES worker found hanging inside army camp in Samba

SAMBA: A 22-year-old civilian worker allegedly committed suicide by hanging himself with a rope inside an army camp in Samba district on Sunday, officials said. Sunil Kumar, a resident of Batala area in Punjab's Gurdaspur, was found hanging with a ceiling fan inside his room in the camp at Bari Brahmuna, the officials said. They said Kumar, who was posted at Military Engineer Services (MES) power station, had apparently committed suicide during the intervening night of Saturday and Sunday. However, the motive behind Kumar taking such an extreme step was not known immediately, the officials said, adding that police have shifted the body to a hospital for post-mortem and also started inquest proceedings.

abducted the soldier to release him alive since he was the only breadwinner of the family.

"I appeal to all the brothers to let him go alive. If he has troubled anyone, I apologise for that. If they want I will get him to quit his job as well," Mohammad Ayoub Wani told reporters.

Wani said his son had gone out to buy meat on Saturday evening as he was to go back to his place of posting on Sunday.

"He told his brother to drop him at the airport tomorrow (Sunday). Sometime later, we got a call that his car was found abandoned with its doors ajar," the father said.

Eyewitnesses claim that there were blood marks in the car but officials did not confirm it.

Police have conducted raids across Kulgam district and adjoining areas to rescue the soldier.

Bhagwant Mann making political capital out of Modi Govt's welfare schemes: Chugh

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
CHANDIGARH: BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh on Sunday said that the Bhagwant Mann government was playing a hoax on Punjab and its people by claiming to launch a food grains scheme.

Chugh said the AAP government was simply exploiting the facility already given by the Modi government for its cheap political gains.

Almost 1.43 Crore people in Punjab have been getting

free food grains which is provided by the Centre. The number of depot holders was already far above than what is required. In these circumstances the B h a g w a n t Mann government is trying to make political capital out of it, he said adding that basically the game of the AAP government was to accommodate its political workers as depot holders.

Chugh said the political drama of the AAP government was just to cash in

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Modi is messiah of poor; Cong Govt didn't do anything for 70 years: Amit Shah

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
INDORE: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday said the Congress-led government didn't do anything for the poor in the country for 70 years and hailed PM Narendra Modi as the "messiah of poor" as he launched the BJP's campaign for upcoming polls in Madhya Pradesh.

Addressing the 'Vijay Sankalp Sammelan' of BJP workers in Indore city, Shah said the previous Kamal Nath government in Madhya Pradesh had stopped 51 schemes which were launched by the earlier BJP

governments for the welfare of the poor.

Today, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is known as the messiah of the poor across the country due to welfare works he has done for the poor people, Shah said. The Congress government which ruled the country for 70 years didn't do anything for the poor," he said.

Shah said the Congress pampered Article 370 (giving

special status to Jammu and Kashmir) "like its own child" for 70 years but PM Modi revoked this article and linked Kashmir with India.

"Can anyone vote for Congress which opposed revocation of article 370 by PM Modi"? questioned Shah.

Shah set the target to win all 29 Lok Sabha seats in Madhya Pradesh to make Narendra Modi prime minister for a third time.



"People of Madhya Pradesh ensured BJP's victory in 27 Lok Sabha seats in 2014. In 2019, they handed 28 out of the 29 LS seats to BJP. In 2024, give all 29 seats to Modi ji," Shah said.

He expressed confidence that BJP will retain power in Madhya Pradesh by winning the assembly polls, due in November this year.

Shah said he visited the entire country but found the BJP organisation in Madhya Pradesh to be the best.

"Leaders sitting on dais can never win elections for BJP. It is the worker sitting

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Narco-terror case: SIA raids continue for second day in Poonch

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
JAMMU: The State Investigation Agency (SIA) conducted raids in Poonch district in connection with a narco-terrorism case for the second day on Sunday, officials said.

The SIA carried out raids at multiple locations in the border district and questioned several people to expose the narco-terror module headed by Rafiq Lala, who was arrested under the Public Safety Act (PSA) early this year, they said.

On Saturday, the SIA raided over half-a-dozen places,

including Lala's house in Danna Doyriyan village in Mandi tehsil.



In March, 7 kilograms of heroin, over Rs 2 crore in cash and a pistol along with some ammunition were recovered from Lala's house.

The SIA took Lala into custody on July 1 for questioning him over his alleged links across the border.

Eighth arrest in April attack on police party

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
SAMBA: The Jammu and Kashmir Police on Sunday said it has nabbed from Samba district a key accused in an attack on a police party in April, making it the eighth arrest in the case.

Farman Ali alias "DC", a resident of Rakh Barotian, was allegedly involved in the April 6 attack on the police party near his village when they had gone to arrest suspected drug peddlers, a police spokesperson said.

Ali, a notorious heroin smuggler, used to frequently change his identity and locations to evade arrest, the spokesman said, adding he was arrested by a police party from Vijaypur.

Samba Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Benam Tosh said all criminals and smugglers involved in the attack would be brought to justice.

A case under sections of the Indian Penal Code was registered at Vijaypur police station, the officer said.

"Police are conducting investigations in a

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Congratulations

Shri Tarun Chugh

ON BEING REAPPOINTED AS

NATIONAL GENERAL SECRETARY

BJP

Courtesy:


DALUJA FAMILY

SUNIL SETHI, Sr. Advocate J&K High Court

SHAM LAL SHARMA, Former Minister & Vice President J&K BJP

DEVENDER SINGH RANA, Sr. BJP Leader





WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)

Max: 34.0°C Min: 24.0°C

Humidity

Max: 80 Min: 64

Temperature (Srinagar)

Max: 29.1°C Min: 17.8°C

Humidity

Max: 83 Min: 58

Sunset : 19:27 Hours

Sunrise : 05:36 Hours