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STATE TIMES

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Country not satisfied with lackadaisical approach, demands pro-activeness: Modi

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday asked trainee IAS officers to provide the best possible governance and quality of life to citizens as he said that 'New India' is not satisfied with a lackadaisical approach and demands pro-activeness.

It is their choice, he told them, whether they will act as speed-breakers or superfast highways in service delivery. The saturation approach pursued by his government to reach out to every entitled beneficiary of welfare schemes ensures social justice and prevents discrimination, he said according to a statement.

He told the trainee officers of the 2022 batch that they should aspire to be catalytic agents, and they will feel satisfaction when they see change happening in front of their eyes.

Talking about schemes like 'Lakshmi Didi', 'Drone Didi' and 'PM Awas Yojana', he said all of them should work with a saturation approach to take these schemes further to people.

Modi said 'Nation First' is not just a slogan but his life's aim and exhorted the officers to walk with him on this journey. He

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Modi meets economists ahead of Budget for 2024-25

Take steps to accelerate growth: Eminent economists

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi is meeting eminent economists on Thursday to elicit their views and suggestions for the upcoming Budget, a senior government official said.

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman is scheduled to present the Budget for 2024-25 in the Lok Sabha on July 23.

Besides economists and sectoral experts, Niti Aayog Vice Chairman Suman Bery and other members also attended the meeting.

Finance Minister Sitharaman, Planning Minister Rao Inderjit Singh, Chief Economic Advisor V Anantha Nageswaran and economists Surjit Bhalla and Ashok Gulati and veteran banker K V Kamath among others were present in the meeting.

The Budget for 2024-25 will be the first major economic

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Blast across LoC, search operation launched

STATE TIMES NEWS
RAJOURI/JAMMU: A blast occurred across the Line of Control (LoC) in Rajouri district, officials said on Thursday. The blast occurred on Wednesday night. Suspicious movement was reported across the LoC in Laam sector late on Wednesday night. The blast occurred very close to the zero line during the movement, the officials said.

A search operation has been launched in the area, they said.

Police attaches drug peddler's house

STATE TIMES NEWS
BARAMULLA: The Jammu and Kashmir Police on Thursday attached a house worth Rs 23 lakh belonging to an alleged drug peddler in Baramulla district.

"Continuing its action against drug peddlers, Police in Baramulla attached property (Residential house worth approximately

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J&K, Punjab Police, BSF officials discuss strengthening security grid along IB



DGP R R Swain along with senior BSF and police officials from J&K and Punjab during the meeting at Kathua on Thursday.

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Senior BSF and police officials from Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab on Thursday discussed ways to share real-time inputs and further strengthen the anti-infiltration grid along the International Border in a meeting in Kathua district, where five army personnel

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SFs intensify search ops, more detained for questioning

JAMMU: More army personnel were deployed in the hills and dense forests of Kathua-Udhampur-Doda belt as the search for the terrorists behind the ambush on an army patrol in Kathua district entered its fourth day on Thursday.

Since the attack on Monday, that killed five army personnel and injured as many, 60 people have been detained for questioning, including three individuals suspected of providing food and shelter to the terrorists, officials said. One those detained is a woman who cooked

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Ex-Bar Association President Adv Nazir Ahmad Ronga arrested under PSA

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Senior advocate and former president of Jammu and Kashmir High Court Bar Association Nazir Ahmad Ronga was arrested in the early hours of Thursday from his Srinagar residence and booked under the Public Safety Act, officials said here.

Ronga was arrested from his residence in the Nishat area of the city and booked under the PSA, they said.

Ronga's family took to social media and said he was arrested at 1.10 am. Ronga is the second ex-president of the lawyers' body to be arrested.

"My father, Adv. N.A. Ronga, the Chairman of the J&K High Court Bar Association, has just been arrested in a deeply disturbing turn of events," Umair Ronga, son of the senior lawyer, posted on X.

"At 1.10 am, a contingent of J&K Police arrived at our home without any arrest warrant, merely stating, 'It's an order from above' ('upper se order hai'). We are left in a state of shock and profound distress. We can only hope this is not another instance of the PSA being misused to intimidate the members of the J&K

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Jammu police raids Tarun Behl's house, office and school; recovers incriminating documents

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Continuing investigations into the arrest of Tarun Behl, operating WhatsApp groups 'The Three times' and 'Aasman news paper', the Jammu police on Thursday conducted simultaneous raids at his house and office at Channi Himmat and British International School at Chowadhi and reportedly recovered some incriminating documents.

FIR 80/2024 under sections 3/5 Official Secrets Act 1923, 49/353 BNSS was registered against Tarun Behl, son of Bal Krishan Behl, resident of 101, Sector-6, Channi Himmat, at Police Station

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Jammu police conducting searches at arrested Tarun Behl's residence.

SI paper leak: ED arrests key absconding accused, gets 5-day remand

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Nearly three weeks after the alleged mastermind of the 2022 JKSSB Sub-inspector recruitment exam paper leak case was arrested, the Enforcement Directorate nabbed an absconding key accused and secured his five-day custody from a special court here, officials said Thursday.

Anil Kumar (31), a resident of Lahroda in Haryana's Mahendragarh district, was arrested by the ED, Jammu, on Wednesday under criminal sections of the prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), the officials said.

They said he was produced in the court of anti-corruption (CBI-ED cases) special judge, Jammu, this afternoon and was sent to five-day custody.

They said the ED investigation revealed that Kumar is one of the prime orchestrators and beneficiary of proceeds of crime in the form of money collected from aspirants.

On June 24, the ED arrested alleged 'kingpin' Yatin Yadav (43), also a resident of Haryana, after a long hunt. The agency also attached movable properties in the form of bank balances

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Karan Singh urges Govt to shift Jammu Div back under Nagrota Corps

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI Expressing concern over the recent terror attacks in the Jammu region, veteran Congress leader Karan Singh on Thursday urged the government to shift the Jammu division back under the Nagrota Corps from Western Command in Chandigarh to ensure better and integrated dominance of the area.

In a statement, the former Jammu and Kashmir Governor said the spate of terrorist attacks in the Jammu region are a matter of great concern.

"I trust the civilian and military authorities are making every effort to track down the militants as soon as possible. My deep sympathy to the bereaved families and prayers for the recovery of those wounded in these attacks," said Singh, the son Hari Singh, the last Maharaja of the erstwhile princely state of Jammu and Kashmir.

"I do have one suggestion for Defence Minister

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WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 36.7°C Min: 25.1°C

Humidity
Max: 70 Min: 55

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 34.0°C Min: 18.1°C

Humidity
Max: 65 Min: 41

Sunset: 19:40 Hours
Sunrise: 05:31 Hours

Abdullahs are Pak ambassadors in India: Chugh

'J&K enters new era of development, peace'

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh, who is also the party incharge for J&K, on Thursday said that both Farooq and Omar Abdullah should be declared ambassadors of Pakistan in India because they are only echoing the sentiments of ISI without realizing how much growth and development has happened in Jammu and Kashmir.

Launching a scathing attack on both the Abdullahs, the BJP leader said they have no consideration for the armed forces that are performing their duties

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round-the-clock to defeat the designs of the Pakistan ISI.

"But as soon as an attack happens from the ISI-sponsored terrorists, the Abdullah family quickly goes to the rescue of the terrorists and tries to run down the Modi government", he added.

Chugh said ever since abrogation of Article 370 there is a new era of development and there are no more stone-throwing incidents or strikes and there has been near peace in Jammu and Kashmir.

"Basically the Abdullahs have understood that they were fast losing ground in J&K as the people have understood their nefarious designs. People want upscale education and employment which the Modi government has given them and would keep doing it", Chugh said.

He said Mufits and Abdullahs have kept J&K in dark for so many

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J&K hotels face FIRs for ignoring CCTV mandate

STATE TIMES NEWS
REASI: The police in Reasi district have registered FIRs against hotel and lodge owners for failing to comply with an order to install CCTV cameras.

Authorities conducted surprise checks in Katra town, discovering five lodges without surveillance systems. The district magistrate emphasized the importance of CCTV cameras for security.

In this regard five FIRs No. 192/24 U/S 223 BNS, 193/24 U/S 223 BNS, 194/24 U/S 223 BNS 195/24 U/S 223

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SC collegium recommends 2 names including Justice N Kotiswar Singh for elevation as Apex court judges

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court collegium headed by Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud on Thursday recommended to the Centre the names of high court judges N Kotiswar Singh and R Mahadevan for elevation to the apex court. While Justice Singh is currently the Chief Justice of the High Court for Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, Justice Mahadevan is the Acting Chief Justice of the Madras High Court.

"In view of the foregoing, the collegium resolves to recommend that the appointment of the above persons be made in the following order of seniority: (i) Justice N Kotiswar Singh, and (ii) Justice R Mahadevan," said the collegium resolution uploaded on the top court's website. The other members of the top court collegium are justices Sanjiv Khanna, B R Gavai, Surya Kant and Irishkesh Roy.

The apex court, which has a sanctioned strength of 34 judges, including the CJI, has 32 judges at present.



India says 'no' to Pak for Champions Trophy 2025, seeks match relocation

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: The buzz around the ICC Champions Trophy 2025 has taken an intriguing turn. According to a Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) insider speaking to news agency ANI, the Indian team will not be travelling to Pakistan for the event. Instead, the BCCI will request the International Cricket Council (ICC) to relocate their matches to Sri Lanka or Dubai. This decision adds another chapter to the longstanding cricketing tensions between India and Pakistan.

Scheduled to be held in Pakistan from February to

March 2025, this tournament faces uncertainty due to the strained relations between the two cricket giants. India has not played in Pakistan since the Asia Cup of 2008, and their last bilateral series was held in India from December 2012 to January 2013. Since then, encounters between the two teams have been limited to ICC tournaments and the Asia Cup.

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) had floated the idea of hosting all of India's matches in Lahore, hoping to ease concerns and facilitate participation. However, this proposal has not gained traction with the BCCI.

Addressing India's stance, a BCCI source told ANI, "India will not travel to Pakistan for the Champions Trophy 2025. We will ask the ICC to hold our matches in Dubai or Sri Lanka."

BCCI Vice-President Rajeev Shukla echoed the sentiment back in May, emphasising that the Indian team's participation hinges on the central government's approval. "In the case of the Champions Trophy, we will do whatever the Government of India tells us to do. We send our team only when the Government of India permits us," Shukla told ANI.

This situation mirrors last year's Asia Cup scenario. Initially slated to be held in Pakistan, the PCB had to adopt a hybrid model, hosting India's matches in Sri Lanka. This arrangement culminated in India clinching the title in Colombo.

Although there were murmurs of a similar approach for Pakistan's participation in the ODI World Cup in India, it never materialised.

As the defending champions of the Champions Trophy, Pakistan had last lifted the trophy in 2017. The build-up to the 2025 edition is sure to be marked by diplomatic manoeuvres and cricketing strategies, keeping fans on the edge of their seats.

4,800 pilgrims leave Jammu for Shri Amarnathji Yatra

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Amid tight security arrangements, more than 4,800 pilgrims left Jammu city in the early hours of Thursday for the twin base camps in Kashmir to join the annual Amarnath Yatra, officials said.

The 14th batch of 4,885 pilgrims left in 191 vehicles for twin base camps of Baltal and Palagam at 3.06 am and were escorted by CRPF security, they said.

Following the terror attack and ongoing operations, security has been further intensified in and around Bhagwati Nagar base camp and along the yatra route.

The batch comprising 2,366 men, 1,086 women,

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