

Vol. 29 Issue 185 • Jammu • Friday • July 5, 2024 • Pages 12 • ₹ 5.00

Regd. No. L-29/JK-346/22-24 2025 to witness one Indian in Space, **UU** another deep sea: Dr Jitendra

Trikuta Club felicitates winner girls' Volleyball team

Website: www.statetimes.in, Email: statetimes1@gmail.com

Chat with champions: Modi hosts T20 World Cup-winning India team

Air surcharge 50 paisa for Leh

LG Sinha calls for focussing on building future-ready cities



LG Manoj Sinha speaking at the Urban Planning Conclave in Srinagar on Thursday.

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Thursday called upon the Planners, Urban Designers and Experts to focus on building future-ready cities.

"Given the extreme weather events, impact of climate change and unpredictable weather patterns, it is imperative to focus on resilient urban planning for future-proof cities", he said while addressing the Srinagar Conclave of High-Level Committee on Urban Planning of Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs,

In his keynote address, the Lt Governor extended his felicitations to the members of the High-Level Committee and all the experts.

He said the two-day long deliberations with all the states and Urban Planners and recommendations will help in formulating final report of the Committee on reform in Urban Planning in the coun-

The Lt Governor reiterated UT administration's resolve on urban transformation and building sustainable, inclusive, resilient, and safe cities which serve the needs of people and

able to effectively tackle economic, social and climate chal-

lenges.

"Our cities are growth engines of the country and also playing the key role in fulfilling the dreams and aspirations of the citizens. Increasing urbanization reflects the growing aspiration. Urban planning should be able to build sustainable infrastructure and enable residents to prosper," the Lt Governor said.

Highlighting the urban reforms introduced under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the

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▶ Our cities- growth engines of country-are playing key role in fulfilling dreams, aspirations of citizens

- Increasing urbanization reflects growing aspiration. Urban planning should be able to build sustainable infrastructure, enable residents to prosper
- Under guidance of PM Narendra Modi, several initiatives such as Urban Rejuvenation and Smart Cities campaign, urban planners are discovering more holistic development of cities to enhance quality of life
- Collective efforts needed from stakeholders, community to unlock urban potential
- Our primary objective is to build sustainable, inclusive, resilient, safe cities which serve needs of people and are able to effectively tackle economic, social, climate challenges
- There is need for sustainable urbanism, comprehensive, all-inclusive urban development, urban resilience, future readiness
- Given extreme weather events, impact of climate change and unpredictable weather patterns, it is imperative to focus on resilient urban planning for future-proof cities ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9



Cup victory parade: Massive sea of people cover every inch of Mumbai's Marine Drive on Thursday.

Jailed Er Rashid, Amritpal to take oath as LS members today

STATE TIMES NEWS

DELHI/ CHANDIGARH: Jailed radical Sikh preacher Amritpal Singh and Kashmiri leader Sheikh Abdul Rashid are set to take oath as Lok Sabha members on Friday, subject to some conditions in their parole orders

While Rashid, popularly known as Engineer Rashid, is in Delhi's Tihar jail in a terror funding case registered under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, Singh is lodged in a prison in Assam's Dibrugarh district for offences under the National Security Act.

Singh, 31, and Rashid, 56, Basharat Bukhari

rejoins PDP STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Six years after he quit, former Jammu and Kashmir minister Syed Basharat Bukhari rejoined the PDP on Thursday.

the PDP-BJP coalition government, first headed by Mufti Muhammad Sayeed and later Mehbooba Mufti. After the government fell

Bukhari was a minister in

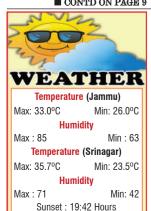
in 2018, Bukhari quit the People's Democratic Party (PDP) and joined the National Conference. He left the National

Conference in 2021 and ioined the People's Conference, headed by Sajad Gani Lone.

Bukhari was recently expelled from the People's Conference for anti-party

On Thursday, he was welcomed back into the PDP fold at its headquarters in Srinagar. "I am excited to once again work with

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Sunrise: 05:27 Hours

won the recent Lok Sabha elections from Khadoor Sahib in Punjab and Baramulla in Jammu and Kashmir, respectively, as Independents while being incarcerated.

They could not take oath as members of the 18th Lok Sabha on June 24 and 25 along with the other winning candidates.

For taking oath, Rashid has been granted a two-hour custody parole, excluding the travel time from Tihar to Parliament, and Singh a four-day custody parole beginning July 5, as he will be flown in from Assam

Over 25,000 pilgrims visit Amarnath shrine, total crosses 1.30 lakh Amid heavy rains, 5600 more pilgrims begin Yatra

STATE TIMES NEWS

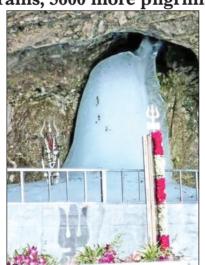
SRINAGAR: The number of pilgrims who paid obeisance to Lord Shiva at Amarnath cave shrine in South Kashmir crossed the 1.30 lakh mark on Thursday, officials said.

"Nearly 25,000 pilgrims performed the yatra on Thursday and had darshan of Baba Bholenath on the sixth day of the annual yatra," the officials said.

They said the number of pilgrims who reached the 3,880-metre-high cave shrine now stands at 1,30,260.

The officials said 16,667 male pilgrims, 5,367 female pilgrims, 520Sadhus and two Sadhvis were among those who paid obeisance at the cave

Over 2,000 security forces, seven transgenders and 354 children also performed the pilgrimage.



The 52-day pilgrimage will conclude on August 19.

More than 4.5 lakh pilgrims paid obeisance at the cave shrine last year.

Meanwhile, despite heavy rains, a contingent of over 5,600 pilgrims set off from Jammu towards the twin base camps, Baltal and Palagam, of the Amarnath cave shrine this morning, officials said. The seventh batch of pilgrims included 4,487 men, 1,011 women, 10 children and 188 'Sadhus' and 'Sadhvis' who departed at 3.13 am in 219 vehicles, under the escort of Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF). from the Bhagwati Nagar base camp, the officials said.

Of these 3 668 pilorims opted traditional 48 km Pahalgam route, while 2,028 chose the shorter but steep-

'Make in India' initiative can add to engines of global growth: PM ple, reliable and resilient sup-



■ STATE TIMES NEWS

ASTANA: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said the 'Make in India' initiative can add to engines of global growth and help democratise the global economy, and highlighted the

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, who is in Astana to attend the SCO Summit, delivered Modi's remarks at the extended format meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation

Modi said that India has contributed significantly to enhancing the economic agenda of the SCO grouping with institutionalised mechanisms such as the SCO Startup Forum and Special Working Group on Startup

DB directs Govt to file response in petition filed against grant of ST Status to Paharis, others

STATE TIMES NEWS JAMMU: The Division

Bench of the Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh High Court comprising Justice Tashi Rabstan and Justice Puneet Gupta directed the government to file a response to a petition challenging the inclusion of "Pahari Ethnic Group," "Paddari Tribe," "Koli," and "Gadda Brahmin in the Scheduled Tribe (ST) list of Jammu and Kashmir

The petition, filed by members of the Gujjar and Bakarewal communities, contests the Constitution (Jammu and Kashmir) Scheduled Tribes Order (Amendment) Act, 2024 (Act No. 3 of 2024), alleging it to be unconstitutional and arbitrary.

In Writ Petition, the Division Bench comprising Justice Tashi Rabstan and Justice Puneet Gupta ordered that if the government fails to file its response by the next hearing on August 12, 2024, the application for interim relief will be considered. The petition challenges the inclusion of the "Pahari Ethnic Group," "Paddari Tribe," "Koli," and "Gadda Brahmin" in the ST list of Jammu and Kashmir,

citing lack of tribal characteristics, nomadic lifestyle, social or educational backwardness, or economic disadvantages traditionally associated with Scheduled Tribes.

Senior Advocate P N Raina assisted by Advocates J A Hamal, and Ankit Dogra appeared for the petitioners, while Vishal Sharma DSGI represented the Union Ministry of Home Affairs, Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs, and Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India of India, and KDS Kotwal, Deputy Advocate General,

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'Isolate and expose' countries that harbour terrorists: India at SCO summit LAC must be respected: EAM Jaishankar



STATE TIMES NEWS ASTANA: India

on Thursday asked the international community to "isolate and expose" those countries that harbour terrorists, provide safe havens and condone

terrorism, underlining that if left unchecked, terrorism can become a major threat to regional and global peace, in a veiled jibe at China and its all-weather ally, Pakistan.

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ASTANA: India and China on Thursday agreed to step up efforts to resolve the remaining issues in eastern Ladakh at the earliest even as External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar conveyed to his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi at a meeting that the Line of Actual Control (LAC) must be respected and ensuring peace along the border is essential.

In talks he held with Wang on the sidelines of the summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) in this Kazakh capital city, Jaishankar reaffirmed India's persistent riew that the relations between the two sides must be based on mutual respect, mutual interest and mutual sensitivity.

The external affairs minister highlighted the need to redou ble efforts to achieve "complete disengagement" from the remaining areas in eastern Ladakh and restore peace and tranquillity to remove obstacles towards the return of normalcy in the ties. In a statement, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said the two ministers "had an in-depth exchange of

views on finding an early resolution ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Union Health Secretary's visit to AIIMS Jammu infuses new zeal and motivation

Commends dedication, hard work of faculty, emphasizes importance of continued excellence in healthcare

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: AHMS Jammu had the distinct honour of welcoming Apurva Chandra, Union Health Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India, on the Thursday. The Secretary was accompanied by Ankita Bundela Mishra, Joint Secretary, PMSSY, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India and Vijay Kumar Sinha, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India.

The Secretary's visit was met with great enthusiasm and served as a source of inspiration, encouragement, and motivation for the entire AIIMS Jammu community.



Union Health Secretary Apurva Chandra, Executive Director & CEO AIIMS Jammu, Prof. (Dr) Shakti Kumar Gupta during digital library's inauguration on Thursday

The visit not only showcased the Institution's progress but also reinforced our commitment to excellence in healthcare and medical education.

The Union Health Secretary arrived at Jammu Airport in the early morning and was received by the Executive Director (ED) & CEO, AIIMS Jammu, Prof. (Dr) Shakti Kumar Gupta, and the Deputy Director Administration (DDA), Lt Col. Prabhat Sharma, of AIIMS Jammu.

A comprehensive presentation about AIIMS Jammu was made by ED & CEO, AIIMS Jammu, highlighting the Institution's achievements and future plans.

The Secretary toured various

facilities within the Academic Block, including the Poison Information Centre, Central Library, Lecture Halls, Cafeteria, and the College of Nursing. A visit to the Convention Centre was also made, where the special features of the centre were displayed.

The Secretary also inspected the Outpatient Department (OPD), including the registration counters and patient navigation system, before proceeding to the diagnostic facilities, such as MRI, CT, and digital X-ray services, as well as the 24x7 lab.

In a jubilant moment, the Secretary inaugurated the 24x7Digital Library, a unique facility among all ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Temple vandalism case: 43 detained

STATE TIMES NEWS

REASI: The police have detained 43 persons in connection with the alleged vandalism at a Shiv temple in Reasi district, officials on Thursday said.

The place of worship was found vandalised by a visitor in a village in the Dharmari area on Saturday evening, tension and sparking protests.

As photos and videos of the vandalism went viral, the locals and several Hindu bodies held protests at various places across the Jammu region and Reasi and Katra towns observed bandh.

"Police has apprehended ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9