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Modi conferred with highest civilian awards of Namibia, Brazil

Namibia a 'valued and trusted partner' in Africa: PM

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

WINDHOEK: Prime Minister Narendra Modi was on Wednesday conferred with Namibia's highest civilian award, 'Order of the Most Ancient Welwitschia Mirabilis'.

The award was presented by Namibian President Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah.

Modi is in Namibia on the last leg of his five-nation visit.

This is the first visit of Prime Minister Modi to Namibia and the third-ever prime ministerial visit from India to the country.

The Prime Minister Narendra Modi was also conferred with Brazil's highest civilian award, the Grand Collar of the National Order of the Southern Cross.

The honour was presented by Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, in recognition of PM Modi's notable contributions to strengthening bilateral relations and enhancing India-Brazil cooperation across key global platforms.

"Being honoured with



PM Narendra Modi receiving Namibia's highest honour - 'Order of the Most Ancient Welwitschia Mirabilis' by President of Namibia, Dr. Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah at Windhoek in Namibia on Wednesday.

Brazil's highest national award by the President today is a moment of immense pride and emotion, not only for me, but also for 140 crore Indians," Modi said during a joint press statement with Lula after their delegation-

level talks.

"I express my heartfelt gratitude to him (President Lula), the Brazilian government, and the people of Brazil," he said.

Later in a social media post, Modi said the award

illustrates the strong affection the people of Brazil have for the people of India.

"May our friendship scale even newer heights of success in the times to come," he said.

India seeks to boost bilateral cooperation with Namibia, which is a "valued and trusted partner" in Africa, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Wednesday as he arrived here on the final leg of his five-nation visit.

This is the first visit of Prime Minister Modi to Namibia and the third-ever Prime Ministerial visit from India to the country.

The Prime Minister was received by Selma Ashipala-Musavyi, Minister of International Relations and Trade of Namibia, at the airport. He was accorded a traditional welcome on his arrival here.

During the visit, he will hold bilateral talks with President Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah and address the Namibian Parliament. "Landed in Windhoek a

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Landslide damages two houses in Poonch

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Two mud houses were damaged in a landslide in Poonch district early Wednesday, official sources said. No one was injured as the families living in the two houses vacated them days ago. The incident took place in Ajamabad, Loran valley.

The houses belong to Mohammad Lateef and his brother. Due to the risk of landslides, both families, along with their cattle, shifted to a safer location two days ago, a relative of Lateef said. Around 5 am, the entire hillock collapsed and boulders hit the houses. Slides are still occurring, putting more houses at risk. Those affected should receive compensation as families are in distress due to the damage, he said.

Promote SKICC for MICE tourism, improve visibility of JKTDC rooms: CM

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Wednesday chaired the Board meetings of Sher-i-Kashmir International Convention Centre (SKICC) and Jammu & Kashmir Tourism Development Corporation (JKTDC) after the Boards were reconstituted recently with Chief Minister as chairman of both the Boards.

CM chaired back-to-back board meetings here at SKICC Srinagar. He presided over the 19th board meeting of SKICC which was attended by Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani, Chief Secretary Atal



CM Omar Abdullah chairing a meeting at Srinagar.

Dulloo, Administrative Secretaries of Finance, Tourism, DG Planning, Director Tourism, MD JKTDC and Director SKICC.

Chief Minister emphasized the need for SKICC to

emerge as a prominent place for conferences and other events so that the SKICC is utilized to its optimal level and it is able to earn sufficient revenue to bear its own expenses. He called upon

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Fresh batch of over 7,500 pilgrims leaves for Shri Amarnathji Shrine

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Amid tight security, a fresh batch of over 7,500 pilgrims left here early Wednesday for the cave shrine of Amarnath in south Kashmir Himalayas, officials said.

The number of pilgrims who have paid obeisance at the cave shine has crossed one lakh.

Escorted by CRPF and police personnel, the eighth batch of 7,579 pilgrims,

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9



Nearly 17,000 more pilgrims offer prayers at cave shrine

SRINAGAR: Nearly 17,000 pilgrims paid obeisance at the Amarnath shrine on Wednesday in south Kashmir Himalayas, taking the total number of pilgrims this year to 128,000 in the first week, officials said here.

A total of 16,720 pilgrims paid obeisance at the 3,880-metre high holy cave

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Police invokes BNSS to attach property in Rs 2.39 Cr job scam, compensate 17 victims

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a landmark action under the newly enacted Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), Jammu Police on Wednesday successfully executed its first-ever property attachment in a high-profile job fraud case, resulting in the recovery and refund of Rs 75 lakhs to victims. This milestone reflects the victim-centric approach embodied in India's new criminal justice reforms.

The case revolves around Harpreet Singh, a resident of Pallanwala, who posed as a Lieutenant Colonel in the Indian Army and defrauded multiple individuals of more than Rs 2.39 crore by falsely promising them jobs in prestigious government institutions such as the MES, MoD and DRDO.

The fraud came to light when Arun



SSP Jammu Joginder Singh briefing media on Wednesday.

Sharma, a resident of Nagrota, filed a complaint on 6 November 2024, leading to the registration of FIR No. 293/2024 under Sections 319(2), 318(4), 336(2), 336(3), 338, and 340(2) of the BNS at Police Station Nagrota, Jammu. The

accused was arrested the following day.

Investigation revealed that a sale agreement was executed between Kamaljeet Kour (wife of Suriender Singh) and the accused's mother, Paramjeet Kour, ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

BJP warns agitation against 'discriminatory language policy'

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Unit of BJP on Wednesday held a meeting of its legislators here, warning a mass agitation against government decision to make Urdu as a compulsory subject in the recently notified Naib Tehsildar recruitment examination in the Union Territory.

The meeting, presided over by J-K BJP President Sat Sharma at party headquarters here, strongly opposed the decision, terming it a deliberate attempt to marginalize the youth of Jammu region, the party said in statement here.

On June 9, J-K Services Selection Board had notified 75 posts of Naib Tehsildar for direct recruitment and making working knowledge of Urdu as mandatory, drawing protests in

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BJP will fight tooth and nail to protect interests of farmers in Punjab : Chugh

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

AMRITSAR/CHANDIGARH: BJP will defy tooth and nail the AAP government policy of grabbing their land to hand it over to real estate mafia, said BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh while interacting with a delegation of farmers in Amritsar.

Chugh said the Modi government is committed to protect the interests of farmers and the BJP would not allow the AAP government in Punjab to run

down on the rights of farmers. Strongly condemning the



land pooling policy to favour real estate sharks, Chugh

said Punjab farmers' land is a food bowl for the nation and it is criminal to deprive the farmers of their land for favouring real estate dealers supported by Arvind Kejriwal.

The scheme proposes to acquire around 75,000 acres of fertile agricultural land across Punjab under the guise of creating new urban centres and industrial regions. In Amritsar alone, 4,464

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CS visits Nunwan, Chandanwadi Base Camps to assess Yatra arrangements



CS Atal Dulloo during visit to Nunwan Base Camp.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, on Wednesday visited the Nunwan Base Camp at

Pahalgam to review the arrangements made for the ongoing Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra 2025.

He chaired a high-level

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meeting with senior officers of the civil administration, police, security forces, Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board (SASB) and other line departments to assess the facilities being provided to the pilgrims for ensuring their yatra in a seamless manner.

During the review meeting, the Chief Secretary was given a comprehensive briefing on various aspects of Yatra management including accommodation facilities, tent arrangements, water supply, power supply, health care services, sanitation measures and other





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Humidity

Max: 86 Min: 55

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Sunrise : 05:30 Hours

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