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National Highway, Near Thandi Khul, Jammu
Contact: 9886035550, 9886035551

STATE TIMES

THE BOLD VOICE OF J&K

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10 J&K set to host 69th National School Games with vigour

10 Govt focuses on innovative policies, youth empowerment: Dy CM

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

Jobs to terror victim families at doorsteps will be ensured: LG

"I will be handing over job letters to terror victim families in few days"

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Thursday inaugurated 'Bharat Sanrachna J&K 2025' exhibition and public outreach initiative at Srinagar.

In his address, the Lieutenant Governor issued a stern warning to divisive elements in the society to stop spreading fake and dangerous narratives that threaten peace and harmony.

"Some people are giving irresponsible statements by saying that guests are spoiling the culture of J&K. They are stating there is a demographic invasion and alcoholism is spreading. This is the similar narrative as of terror outfit TRF. I appeal to those making such statements to stop peddling such narrative. We have already lost many innocent lives due to similar statements in the past," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor



LG Manoj Sinha speaking at inaugural session of 'Bharat Sanrachna J&K 2025' exhibition at Srinagar on Thursday.

reiterated his resolve to ensure justice for terror victim families and warned that those responsible for their sufferings will be held accountable.

"We are honoring and delivering justice to real terror victims of Kashmir valley. I recently met terror victim families in Anantnag. SRO-43 was compromised in the past. Instead of those who are entitled for jobs, the killers were granted jobs under SRO-43. Whoever

▶▶ Inaugurates 'Bharat Sanrachna J&K 2025' Exhibition and Public Outreach Initiative at Srinagar

▶▶ Says, some people giving irresponsible statements by saying that guests spoiling the culture of J&K; they say there is demographic invasion and alcoholism is spreading. This is similar narrative as of terror outfit TRF. I appeal to those making such statements to stop peddling such narrative. We have already lost many innocent lives due to similar statements in past

▶▶ We are honoring and delivering justice to real terror victims of Kashmir valley. I recently met

misused the SRO-43, will face the action" the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor shared the remarkable growth story of the country and Union Territory of Jammu Kashmir in the past few years.

"Since 2014, our great nation is rapidly moving towards becoming a global superpower with new resolve, new thinking and a new roadmap.

STATE TIMES NEWS
KOLKATA: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Thursday described Travel & Tourism Fair (TTF) Kolkata as a vital platform to explore avenues for collaboration between Jammu & Kashmir and West Bengal and promote mutual growth in the tourism sector.

Inaugurating the Travel & Tourism Fair (TTF) Kolkata-2025, India's oldest and most trusted B2B travel trade show, at Biswa Bangla Mela Prangan, Kolkata, the Chief Minister emphasized that the fair would encourage all stakeholders to contribute meaningfully towards strengthening the cultural and economic ties between the two regions.

The inaugural ceremony was attended by several dignitaries, including Advisor to the CM, Nasir Aslam Wani, Additional Chief Secretary to CM Dheeraj Gupta, Deputy Speaker of the Sikkim Legislative Committee



CM Omar Abdullah speaking at Travel & Tourism Fair at Kolkata on Thursday.

Inaugurates Travel & Tourism Fair Kolkata-2025 Mutual tourism growth possible between J&K, West Bengal: CM

Pahalgam attack underscores need for 24x7 vigilance: Omar
KOLKATA: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Wednesday said the Pahalgam terror attack has underscored the need for round-the-clock alertness to prevent such incidents from recurring.

He said, "The Pahalgam incident has shown that we need to be alert 24x7 to prevent such incidents from recurring. Our forces are fully alert."

Asked about the delay in arresting the culprits behind the Pahalgam attack, the chief minister said that investigations take time and that there was no fixed timeline for such actions. "Arrests do not depend on any time frame. I am confident that one day the perpetrators of the attack will be apprehended," he asserted.

J&K Govt embarks on study to establish IT/ITES Parks

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: In a decisive move to strengthen the IT landscape of Jammu & Kashmir, the government has initiated a detailed study to explore models for setting up Information Technology/Information Technology Enabled Services (IT/ITES) Parks across the Union Territory as envisioned in the J&K IT Policy 2020.

A high level meeting chaired on Thursday by Secretary, IT Department, Dr Piyush Singla, brought together members of the Study Group comprising senior officials from the IT Department, Jammu &

Kashmir e-Governance Agency (JaKeGA), Planning Department, IIT Jammu, IIM Jammu and SeMT to chart out the roadmap for developing state-of-the-art IT/ITES Parks in J&K.

Dr. Singla underscored the importance of adopting best practices from leading IT Parks in India to ensure the success and sustainability of similar initiatives in J&K. He highlighted that these efforts are aligned with the UT's IT Policy 2020, which envisions IT Parks in Jammu and Srinagar to spur innovation, generate employment and attract

Goods train derails amid heavy rains in Kathua Landslide hits Poonch, girl killed

STATE TIMES NEWS
MENDHAR/JAMMU: A girl was killed after a landslide triggered by rains hit a mountainous area of Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district on Thursday, officials said.

The incident took place in the Chak Bonalla area of Mendhar tehsil.

The deceased was identified as 12-year-old Afya Kousar, they added.

Meanwhile, two bogies of a goods train derailed due to flooding on the railway track in Kathua district, disrupting train traffic on the Jammu-Pathankot route, officials said.

No loss of life was reported in the incident.

The incident took place in Lakhapur area of the district, when the train was on its way to Punjab



The incident disrupted train traffic and efforts are on to restore the movement of trains, officials said.

ACB arrests revenue official for bribery in Ramban

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Anti Corruption Bureau (ACB) arrested a revenue official in a bribery case in Pogal Paristan area of Ramban district on Thursday.

"ACB received a complaint alleging that the complainant applied for the correction of the name of his father that was entered wrong in the revenue records in the office of Tehsildar Ukhral. The Tehsildar directed Patwari Muzamil Salam of Patwar Halqa Pogal Paristan for doing the needful. The concerned Patwari demanded Rs

20,000 from the complainant for making the necessary changes however after negotiations the Patwari agreed to do the needful for Rs 2500," ACB official said.

Since the complainant didn't want to pay bribe, official added, he approached ACB for taking legal action against the accused public servant under law.

On receipt of a complaint, official said, a discreet verification was conducted, which confirms the demand of bribe by the public servant and accordingly, case FIR No.03/2025 under Section 7 of PC Act 1988

'India now makes faster payments than any other country, courtesy UPI'

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: India now makes faster payments than any other country with the quick growth of UPI, and the usage of other instruments, including debit and credit cards, is on the decline, according to an IMF note.

Unified Payments Interface is an instant and real-time payment system developed by NPCI to facilitate inter-bank transactions through mobile phones.

IMF's Fintech Note titled 'Growing Retail Digital Payments: The Value of Interoperability' said that since its launch in 2016, UPI has grown quickly, while some proxies for cash usage have begun to decline.

UPI now processes more than 18 billion transactions per month and dominates other electronic retail payments in India.

"India now makes faster payments than any

Over 17,000 pilgrims visit Shri Amarnathji Cave Shrine on Thursday; 1,45,000 in first week 7,307 pilgrims leave Jammu base camp

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Over 17,000 pilgrims on Thursday paid obeisance to Lord Shiva at the holy cave shrine of Amarnath in south Kashmir Himalayas, taking the total number of pilgrims to 1,45,000 in the first week, officials said here.

A total of 17,022 pilgrims paid obeisance at the 3,880-metre high holy cave shrine on the Himalayas in south Kashmir on Wednesday, the officials said.

The pilgrims included 12,471 men, 4,000 women, 182 children, 253 security forces personnel and 113



sadhus and sadhvis. Meanwhile, a fresh batch of more than 7,300 pilgrims left the Bhagwati Nagar base camp here to join the annual Amarnath pilgrimage in the south Kashmir Himalayas this morning, officials said.

According to the officials, the ninth batch of 7,307 pilgrims -- 5,534 men,

Two pistols, 6 hand-grenades among consignment recovered

STATE TIMES NEWS
MENDHAR/JAMMU: Two pistols and six hand-grenades were among a cache of arms and ammunition recovered by a joint team of security forces during a search operation in Poonch district on Thursday, official sources said.

A joint search operation was launched by the police, Special Operations Group, and the Army in the general area of Khanetar and adjoining areas in the district, they said.

At around 16:20 hours, the team recovered a cache of arms, ammunition, and explosive items from

Chhari Mubarak taken to Pahalgam for Bhoomi Pujan

STATE TIMES NEWS
ANANTNAG: On the auspicious occasion of Ashad Purnima, the saffron-robed silver mace of Lord Shiva, traditionally known as 'Chhari Mubarak', was ceremoniously taken to Pahalgam for the Bhoomi Pujan ritual, marking the formal commencement of the age-old traditions associated with the annual Amarnath Yatra.

Amid the chanting of Vedic hymns, a group of Sadhus led by Swami Mahant Deependra Giri took the Chhari Mubarak from its abode in Srinagar. The holy



Rituals being performed of Holy mace at Gauri Shankar Temple, Pahalgam.

Govt approves Rs 1,066 Cr to 6 disaster-hit states: Shah

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: The Centre has approved Rs 1,066.80 crore for flood and landslide affected states of Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Kerala and Uttarakhand as part of the central share under the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF), Union Home Minister Amit Shah said on Thursday.

Shah also said that the Narendra Modi government stands resolutely beside the states in all situations like flood, landslide and cloud-

burst.

"Today the central government has approved Rs 1,066.80 crore for flood and landslide affected states of Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Kerala and Uttarakhand as part of the central share under SDRF," he wrote on X.

The home minister said apart from the financial aid, providing all logistic assistance, including deployment of requisite National Disaster Response Force, Army and Air Force,

CS reviews functioning of DMRR&R Deptt; assesses measures for displaced populations

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, on Thursday held a review meeting regarding functioning of the Department of Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation & Reconstruction (DMRR&R).

The meeting had a detailed assessment of the measures being taken by the department for disaster mitigation besides welfare of different displaced categories of populations.

Principal Secretary, Home and DMRR&R Departments; Principal Secretary, Social Welfare; Commissioner Secretary, FCS&CA; Commissioner



Secretary, GAD; Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir/Jammu; Secretary, PWD; Secretary, Law; Relief Commissioner; Chief Engineers and other concerned officers and officials of the Department attended the meeting.

Dulloo asked the department to implement robust

Man, sister arrested with heroin worth Rs 70 lakh

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: A brother-sister duo were arrested with 550 grams of heroin worth Rs 70 lakh on the outskirts of Jammu city on Thursday, police said.

They said the accused have been identified as Gurjeet Singh and his sister Navneet Kour from Tanda village in RS Pura.

During routine checking at the Balol checkpoint in the Miran Sahib area, police intercepted two people travelling on a scooter and recovered 550 grams of heroin from them. Their scooter was seized, police said.

The recovered contraband is valued at Rs 70 lakh in the international market. An FIR

has been registered against the siblings at Miran Sahib police station under relevant sections of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, they said.

According to police, the mother of the two accused was arrested in a drug peddling case by Punjab Police in June.

The interrogation of the accused is expected to provide further leads on the drug supply chain and distribution network, police said.

The source and destination of the drug consignment are yet to be ascertained. A financial investigation has also been initiated to trace the proceeds of the illegal narcotic trade, they said.

WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 31.2°C Min: 22.9°C

Humidity
Max: 98 Min: 74

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 28.0°C Min: 19.1°C

Humidity
Max: 81 Min: 73

Sunset: 19:41 Hours
Sunrise: 05:31 Hours