

# RNI No.: 66908/96

Vol. 30 Issue 196 • Jammu • Thursday • July 17, 2025 • Pages 12 • ₹ 3.00 Air surcharge 50 paisa for Leh

Caste enumeration is included in forthcoming population census, Muslims too will have to mention the 'caste' there

JKB Financial Services crosses Rs 400 Cr milestone in Mutual Fund Asset Management JKPS Kunjwani hosts Transformative Workshop on 'Becoming an Effective Teacher'

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

# We won't spare anyone speaking language of terror outfits: LG

Regd. No. L-29/JK-346/2025-27

"Those behind Pahalgam attack identified; will meet same fate as other top terror commanders"



LG Manoj Sinha addressing seminar on J&K's March Towards Peace as part of lecture series organized by Gandhi Smriti at New Delhi on Wednesday.

### STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday addressed a seminar on "J&K's March Towards Peace" as part of lecture series organized by Gandhi Smriti, at New Delhi. On the occasion, the Lieutenant Governor also inaugurated a newly

developed 'Gandhi Smriti Art Gallery'. The event was also graced by former Union Minister and Vice-Chairman of Gandhi Smriti, Vijay Goel.

In his keynote address, the Lieutenant Governor highlighted the profound and deep bond between Mahatma Gandhi and Jammu Kashmir.

"Pujya Bapu's philosophy is a source of inspiration for UT and our education system is inculcating the values of truth, non-violence and compassion among youth. Gandhiji saw a ray of hope in Jammu and Kashmir. Gandhiji wanted to see peace and progress in Jammu and

### Addresses seminar on "J&K's March Towards Peace" at Gandhi Smriti, New Delhi

- Says Pujya Bapu's philosophy is a source of inspiration for UT and our education system is inculcating the values of truth, non-violence and compassion among youth
- PM Narendra Modi is fulfilling dream of Mahatma Gandhi. Since 2019, he has been building a fear-free, terror-free J&K, which would make its place among the developed states and UTs as a symbol of peace
- This wind of change has rattled terrorist nation Pakistan and it constantly tries to hurt the soul of India and its cultural-spiritual fabric. Aim of Pahalgam terrorist attack was to stall economic progress of CONTD ON PAGE 9

# Another batch of pilgrims leaves for Amarnathji shrine state times news

JAMMU: A fresh batch of 6,064 pilgrims left here on Wednesday to pay obeisance at the cave shrine of Amarnath in south Kashmir Himalayas, officials said.

The pilgrims, including 1,511 women, left for the twin base camps of Nunwan-Pahalgam in Anantnag and Baltal in Ganderbal in two separate convoys under

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# **Properties of 3 terror** handlers attached

### **STATE TIMES NEWS**

BUDGAM: In a major crackdown on terror operatives and their support structures, properties of three terrorist handlers operating from Pakistan were attached in Budgam district on Wednesday, police said.

The three properties are located in Khag, Chewa Beerwah, and Harwani Khansahib areas of the central Kashmir district, a police spokesperson said.

# CM launches 'Project 13-13' women's surgical care initiative at National Hospital Jammu



CM Omar Abdullah speaking at an event at National Hospital Jammu on Wednesday.

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Chief Minister Abdullah Omar Wednesday inaugurated Project 13-13, a new healthcare initiative launched by National Hospital Jammu aimed at providing women's surgical care at a capped cost of Rs 13,000.

The initiative, led by Dr. Jasbir Kaur and her team, is intended to support women from financially weaker sections of society by making essential surgical treatments more affordable.

The event was also attend-

ed by Advisor to the Chief care systems face complex Minister, Nasir Aslam Wani; challenges, efforts such as Minister for Health & this contribute to easing the Medical Education, School burden on ordinary citizens. Education, Higher "This project stands for the Education and welfare of all," the Chief Minister said. "Its founda-Welfare, Sakeena Itoo and MLA for Uri Assembly contion rests on principles of

Speaking at the launch Chief Minister Abdullah described the initiative as "a meaningful step in service of the people.

He noted that while health-

stituency, Sajjad Shafi.

Manjeet Singh was also pres-

Additionally,

times of need, without distinction or expectation, in the service of people."

universal service to humani-

ty, a spirit long championed

by many traditions, includ-

ing the Sikh faith. It's heart-

ening to see the community

step forward once again in

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# **Indian Railways sanctions additional** Rail Line FLS between Jammu- Katra

## STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: In a significant move to enhance connectivity in Jammu region and facilitate pilgrimage, the Ministry of Railways has sanctioned Final Location Survey (FLS) for an additional new rail line between Jammu and Mata Vaishno Devi Katra covering a length of 77.96 kilometres. It will be conducted at an estimated cost of Rs 12,59,17,363 to lay the groundwork for this future Railway Line.

This Final Location Survey will lay the groundwork for the future construction of this vital railway link. Northern Railway, the exe-

### Kharge, Rahul write to PM; seek legislation to restore J&K statehood STATE TIMES NEWS

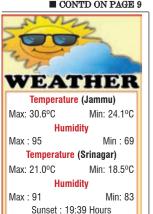
NEW DELHI: Congress leaders Mallikarjun Kharge and Rahul Gandhi on Wednesday wrote to Prime Minister Narendra Modi to press for a legislation in Parliament's upcoming Monsoon session to grant full statehood to Jammu and Kashmir.

The leaders of opposition in the two houses of Parliament -- Kharge is the LoP in the Rajya Sabha and Gandhi is the LoP in the Lok Sabha -- also called on the government to bring a legislation to include the Union Territory of Ladakh under the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution.

In their joint letter to Modi, Kharge and Gandhi said that for the past five years, the people of the union territory of Jammu and Kashmir have consistently called for the restoration of full statehood.

This demand is both legitimate and firmly grounded in their constitutional and democratic rights, they said.

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Sunrise: 05:34 Hours

# cuting authority for this

project, will oversee the FLS. This additional new line is expected to significantly ease travel for the devotees visiting the revered Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine, offering a more direct and efficient route. It also reflects the ongoing efforts by Indian Railways to expand and modernise its network nationwide, particularly in regions of high strategic and public importance

This initiative is designed not only to enhance pilgrimage, tourism but also to contribute to the economic growth and development

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# Terrorist killed recently in Basantgarh was top JeM commander Haider: DGP

# **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Director General of Police Nalin Prabhat on Wednesday said the terrorist eliminated in an encounter in Dudu-Basantgarh forest in Udhampur district was a top most commander of Pakistanbased Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) outfit who was active in the area for the last four years.

Asserting that the security forces are continuing their operations to neutralise terrorists, he highlighted the good relations between police and public and said the police cannot be successful without the support of the people. "The anti-terror operations are taking

place continuously, and recently, we got a very big success in Dudu-Basantgarh, where a senior and top JeM command-



er, who was active in that area for the last four years, was killed. The operations are taking place and all the terrorists will be eliminated one by one," the

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# Drones are new 'OGWs' for terror groups in J&K, ISI using UAVs in infiltration

SRINAGAR: Drones have emerged as the new "Over Ground Workers" (OGWs) for terror groups in Jammu and Kashmir, causing concern among security agencies as this shift from human networks to unmanned aerial vehicles for surveillance and logistics marks a new frontier in the region's security landscape, officials said here on Wednesday.

The reliance on the human network of OGWs has drastically been cut down as many of them have been arrested or have gone into hiding due to increasing ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

# Cong should learn to think of nation: Chugh

### STATE TIMES NEWS DELHI/CHANDIGARH:

National General Secretary Tarun Chugh on Wednesday slammed senior Congress leader Rahul Gandhi for questioning foreign minister S Jaishankar's meeting with President Xi Jinping to express nation's concern over Pakistan-sponsored Pahalgam terrorist attack.

Chugh said being leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi is bringing shame to the nation.

"We all know how Rahul Gandhi used to hold secret. meetings with the China officials for breakfast or whatev-



er in Delhi without disclosing the agenda to the people of the nation," said Chugh. He said the Congress

should stop indulging in cheap politics of targeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who has catapulted

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# Cabinet clears PM Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana with Rs 24,000 Cr annual outlay for 6 yrs

# Govt committed to transforming lives of farmers: Modi

# **STATE TIMES NEWS**

NEW DELHI: The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana with an annual outlay of Rs 24.000 crore for six years to cover 100 districts, benefiting about 1.7 crore farmers.

The scheme is in pursuance of the Budget announcement for 2025-26 to develop 100 districts to enhance agricultural productivity, increase adoption of crop diversification and sustainable agricultural prac-





Dhaanya Krishi Yojana' will be implemented through the convergence of 36 existing schemes across 11 departments, other state schemes and local partnerships with

Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said while briefing reporters about the decisions taken by the Cabinet.

He said the scheme will benefit about 1.7 crore farmers. An official release said that the scheme

aims to enhance agri-

cultural productivity, increase adoption of crop diversification and sustainable agricultural practices, augment post-harvest storage at the panchayat and block levels, improve irriga-

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# after suspicious movement

# **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Security forces have launched a search operation along the Hiranagar forward area of Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua district after a villager reported the movement of two suspected persons on Tuesday night, officials said.

Hiranagar falls along the International Border (IB) in the Jammu district and has seen several encounters in the past.

The operation was ongoing when reports last came from the area. So far, there has been no trace of the suspected persons, who are said to have asked the man to

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# Fake gun licence case: HC extends SIT probe into 2 more FIRs

JAMMU: The High Court here has dismissed pleas seeking quashing of additional FIRs in connection with an investigation into the fake gun licence case and ordered a probe by a special investigation team (SIT) into two cases registered in the Rajouri district over a decade

It, however, said the order shall not preclude the government from transferring the investigation into all FIRs to any specialised probe agency such as the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) or the Central

Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

An FIR was registered on February 7, 2011, at Janipur police station in Jammu after two persons carrying 12 bore guns were nabbed and their weapons licenses, issued by Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM), Mendhar (Poonch), were found to have addresses of Kupwara, Kathua and Budhal.

An SIT was constituted, and it found that some fake gun licenses were prepared in the office of the additional district magistrate, Rajouri, and the SDM of Mendhar.

Accordingly, one docket in

respect of 216 gun licenses was sent to the Rajouri police station, and another for 179 gun licenses to the Mendhar police station, leading to the registration of separate FIRs in 2011. Two more FIRs were registered in Kandi and Thanamandi in Rajouri dis-

trict in 2012 and 2015. Various petitions have been filed by the accused, including some government officials, seeking quashing of the four FIRs, on the ground that an FIR has already been registered in respect of the same incident with the Janipur Police Station.

The session will take a

break from August 12 to

August 18 for Raksha Badhan and Independence-

The session is expected to

witness stormy confrontations between the ruling

Bharatiya Janata Party

(BJP) and the opposition,

including the Congress-led

Day celebrations.

# J&K witnessed unprecedented transformation in past 5-6 years: LG

# "Restoration of Statehood...we must wait for appropriate time"

# **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has said that Jammu and Kashmir has witnessed unprecedented transformation over the past five to six years under the leadership of the Prime Minister Narendra

"Across every sector, whether it be infrastructure, economy, education, or governance, remarkable progress has been made", he said in an interview to a national news portal 'THE WEEK, adding that one of the foremost achievements has been ensuring transparency and accountability.

To a question on restoration of Statehood to Jammu and Kashmir, the Lieutenant Governor said: "When the Home Minister introduced the Bill in Parliament to abrogate Articles 370 and 35A, he laid out a clear roadmap: first delimitation, then assembly elections, and finally, statehood at an appropriate time.



Delimitation, which many doubted, was completed. Elections were held peacefully, with high voter turnout, and an elected government is now in place. The third step-statehood-was mentioned as something that would come at the appropriate time. Since it was stated in Parliament, it is an assurance that will certainly be ful-

filled. However, as the Home Minister said, the timing must be appropriate, and we must wait for that moment."

"Starting from the beginning, Article 370 was abrogated on August 5, 2019. I assumed office in August 2020. By August 7, it will be five years since that historic step," LG Manoj Sinha said.

Elaborating on the transformation and infrastructure development, Manoj Sinha said that across every sector, whether it be infrastructure, economy, education, or governance, remarkable progress has been made. One of the foremost achievements has been ensuring transparency and accountability. The region's economy has nearly doubled in this period. For instance, J&K Bank, which once ran losses of Rs 1,200- Rs 1,300 crore, is now showing profits of Rs 1,700 crore," the LG said.

In terms of infrastructure, the LG said, major work has been carried out on highways and tunnels.

"I remember that when I first arrived, the journey from Jammu to Srinagar used to take 8 hours. Today, it takes just 4.5 hours. Highway and tunnel projects worth Rs 1.5 lakh crore are currently underway. In rural road development under PMGSY, about ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

# 8 new bills to be introduced in Parliament during Monsoon session August 21.

# STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: A bill that seeks to preserve and protect geoheritage sites and georelics is among the eight new draft legislation the government plans to introduce in the Monsoon session of Parliament beginning

Monday. Among the bills planned for the Monsoon session are the National Sports Governance Bill, the Geoheritage Sites and Geo-relics (Preservation and Maintenance) Bill, the and Minerals Mines (Development

Regulation) Amendment Bill and the National Anti-Doping (Amendment) Bill. The Monsoon session of Parliament is scheduled to

commence from July 21 and

there will be a total of 21 sit-

tings of both Houses till

INDIA bloc. Among the likely flashpoints between the government and the opposition will be the Election Commission's Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of the electoral rolls in Bihar, ahead of the state Assembly polls later this

The opposition is also expected to seek answers from the government

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