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## Identify, isolate those trying to divide on communal lines at Pakistan's behest: LG

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

ANANTNAG: On the auspicious occasion of 'Harbah Utsav', the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha paid obeisance at Mata Sidh Lakshmi Temple at Teerathraj Lok Bhawan, Anantnag.

He participated in the Mahayagya organised by the Teerathraj Sidh Lakshmi Peeth Trust, and prayed for well-being of all and peace and prosperity of Jammu Kashmir.

The Lieutenant Governor also interacted with the devotees and extended his hearty greetings on the auspicious occasion.

"Teerathraj Lok Bhawan has remained the centre of our devotion and faith since ancient times. It is an occasion to spread awareness about spiritual heritage which emphasises on tolerance and acceptance of other religious traditions, viewing them as different paths leading towards the same ultimate truth," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor emphasised on unity in diversity and urged everyone to strengthen the bond of brotherhood and values of selfless service.



LG Manoj Sinha offering prayers at Mata Sidh Lakshmi Temple at Lok Bhawan, Anantnag on Monday.

"We must spread the message of compassion, selflessness, and the inherent divinity of all beings. We should encourage young people to treat everyone with respect and dedicate themselves to build a just and humane society," the Lieutenant Governor further said.

The Lieutenant Governor also appealed to the people to identify and isolate those who, on behest of the Terrorist nation Pakistan are trying to create a divide on communal lines. They are the enemies of peace and development and we must stand united against such elements, he said.

► Attends Harbah Utsav, pays obeisance at Mata Sidh Lakshmi Temple at Lok Bhawan, Anantnag

► Emphasises on spreading message of compassion, selflessness, inherent divinity of all beings

► Says, it is an occasion to spread awareness about spiritual heritage which emphasises on tolerance and acceptance of other religious traditions, viewing them as different paths leading towards same ultimate truth

► We should encourage young people to treat everyone with respect and dedicate themselves to build a just and humane society

The Lieutenant Governor appreciated the Deputy Commissioner Anantnag and his entire team for making dedicated efforts to improve facilities for the pilgrims at Mata Sidh Lakshmi Lok Bhawan. He also extended his best wishes to the devotees for

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## Peace time is nothing but 'illusion': Rajnath

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Peace time is nothing but an "illusion", and India must remain prepared for uncertainty even during periods of relative calm, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said while hailing the armed forces for the valour they displayed during Operation Sindoor.

In an address at an event, Singh said the performance of the indigenously built equipment and platforms in the operation increased the global demand for India-built military products.

"The world is looking at our defence sector with new respect. A single delay or error in financial processes can directly affect operational preparedness," he said.

"Most of the equipment we once imported is now being made in India. Our reforms are succeeding because of the clarity of vision and commitment at the highest level," he said.

The defence minister was



Defence Minister, Rajnath Singh addressing Controllers' Conference of Defence Accounts Department in New Delhi.

addressing the Controllers' Conference of the Defence Accounts Department (DAD).

"A single delay or error in financial processes can directly affect operational preparedness," he said, and called on the DAD to evolve from a "controller" to a "facilitator" in sync with increasing participation of the private sector in defence.

Delving into the larger geopolitical situation, the defence minister cited an analysis by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, which said the global military expenditure reached USD 2.7 trillion in 2024.

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This opens up tremendous opportunities for India's indigenous defence industries, he said. The defence minister praised the

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## Army pays tribute to Kargil hero Captain Vikram Batra

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

CHANDIGARH: The Indian Army Monday paid its tribute to 1999 Kargil War hero Captain Vikram



Batraat DAV College here.

Captain Batra died in combat during Operation Vijay on July 7, 1999. He was posthumously honoured with

Param Vir Chakra.

An event began with an introduction of Captain Vikram Batra's valiant service as part of the 13 JAK Rifles.

Captain Batra's father G L Batra and his twin, Vishal Batra, were presented with a memento and a letter of gratitude by the army.

According to a statement, the event was part of a special outreach campaign to connect with the families of martyrs.

The Indian Army's tribute to Captain Batra is a testament to the nation's

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In a first, citizens will be able to self-enumerate during upcoming Census

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: A special dedicated web portal will be launched for self-enumeration during the upcoming Census, which will be available for both phases of the national enumeration exercise, officials said Monday.

In the country's first digital census, enumerators will collect the data of citizens using mobile applications on their Android and Apple phones, they said.

It will also be the first time in the country that citizens will get a chance to self-enumerate through a dedicated web portal which will be available for both the phases of Census - Houselisting and Housing Census (HLO) and Population Enumeration.

"Digital Census initiative is a transformational step towards modernising the Census process. For the first time, technology will be used to collect data and send it electronically to the central server. This will result in early availability of Census data," an official said.

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**WEATHER**

**Temperature (Jammu)**  
Max: 34.4°C Min: 25.0°C

**Humidity**  
Max: 81 Min: 78

**Temperature (Srinagar)**  
Max: 34.9°C Min: 23.5°C

**Humidity**  
Max: 63 Min: 45

Sunset : 19:42 Hours  
Sunrise : 05:29 Hours

## Over 8,600 pilgrims leave Jammu for Shri Amarnathji Yatra



### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Amid a multi-tier security cover, more than 8,600 pilgrims left the Bhagwati Nagar base camp in Jammu early Monday to join the annual Amarnath

pilgrimage in the Himalayas, officials said.

The sixth batch of 8,605 pilgrims - 6,486 men, 1,826 women, 42 children, and 251 sadhus and sadhvis - left the Bhagwati Nagar base camp

### 24,000 pilgrims visit on Monday; 93,000 in 5 days

SRINAGAR: Nearly 24,000 pilgrims on Monday paid obeisance to Lord Shiva at the holy cave shrine of Amarnath in south Kashmir Himalayas, taking the total number of pilgrims this year to 93,000 in just five days, officials said here.

The officials said 23,800 pilgrims paid obeisance at the 3,880-metre high holy cave shrine on the Himalayas in south Kashmir on Monday.

The pilgrims comprised around 17,000 men, 4,000 women, several hundred security forces personnel and dozens of Sadhus and Sadhvis.

The total number of pilgrims who visited the cave shrine in the first five days of the 38-day yatra has risen to 93,341, they added.

here in 372 vehicles for the twin base camps in Kashmir amid tight security arrangements at 3.30 am and 4.25 am, the officials said.

The first pilgrim convoy,

carrying 3,486 pilgrims in 166 vehicles, left for the shorter but steeper 14-km Baltal route in the Ganderbal district, followed by

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## Sinha visits Shri Amarnathji base camp Nunwan, reviews arrangements

Interacts with pilgrims, officials, service providers, langar sevadars, sanitation workers

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday visited Nunwan Base camp at Pahalgam and reviewed the arrangements in place for the ongoing Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra.

The Lieutenant Governor interacted with the pilgrims, service providers, langar sevadars, sanitation workers, and took stock of the facilities for the devotees. He commended the significant contribution of all stakeholders in the smooth and successful conduct of the holy pilgrimage.

During his visit, the Lieutenant Governor chaired a meeting with the adminis-



LG Manoj Sinha interacting with pilgrims at Nunwan Base camp.

trative and security officials and discussed measures taken for the safe and hassle-free journey of the devotees of Baba Barfani. He also reviewed the queue manage-

ment at the camp.

The Lieutenant Governor was accompanied by Dr Mandeep K. Bhandari, Principal Secretary

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## Advisor to PM assesses J&K's dev landscape; reviews major projects, governance reforms

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: In a high-level meeting convened on Monday, Advisor to Prime Minister, Tarun Kapoor, undertook a comprehensive review of development trajectory of Jammu and Kashmir, spanning energy, health, infrastructure, urban renewal, connectivity and governance reforms.

Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, along with other senior officers were present in the meeting.

The meeting brought together Administrative Secretaries of the UT government and senior officials from various Central agencies implementing mega proj-



Advisor to Prime Minister, Tarun Kapoor chairing a meeting at Srinagar on Monday.

ects across the region.

The Advisor was briefed on the significance, current status and projected completion timelines of each major project.

The session began with a review of major hydroelectric projects (HEPs), which form

the backbone of J&K's energy strategy. Projects like Pakal Dul (1000 MW), being developed at a cost of Rs 12,757 crore and scheduled for completion by December 2026, were prominently discussed. Besides, updates were also shared on Kiru

(624 MW) with 60 per cent physical progress, Kwar (540 MW) at 22 per cent progress and Ratle (850 MW) currently at 23 per cent physical progress. Other strategic projects like Sawalkote, Uri Phase-II, Kirthai-II,

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## For India, climate justice is no alternative; it is a moral duty: Modi

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RIO DE JANEIRO: Under its presidency, India will work to define BRICS in a new form and it will be 'Building Resilience and Innovation for Cooperation and Sustainability', Prime Minister Narendra Modi said at the summit of the grouping on Monday.

India will hold the BRICS presidency next year.

In an address at a session on environment and global health, Modi also said that the health of the earth and the health of people are connected to each other.

"For India, climate justice is no alternative; it is a moral duty," Modi said, adding: "Where some people measure



it in numbers, India lives it in values."

The prime minister also indicated India's possible priorities during its presidency of the BRICS grouping.

"Under India's BRICS presidency, we will work to define BRICS in a new form. BRICS will mean -- Building Resilience and Innovation for Cooperation and

Sustainability," he said. Modi also underlined the need to remain prepared for any eventualities.

The COVID pandemic taught us that viruses do not come taking visas, and solutions, too, are not chosen by looking at passports, he said.

The prime minister also said the developing nations must have the same confi-

dence about the future that the developed nations have.

The self-confidence about the future that developed countries have -- the same self-strength should also be in these countries, he added.

The top leaders of BRICS held deliberations on a range of pressing challenges facing the globe at the

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## Man killed in cloudburst in Poonch, several areas flooded in Rajouri; heavy rain in Kashmir

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH/SRINAGAR: Heavy rain lashed many parts of Jammu and Kashmir on Monday, triggering flash floods in twin border districts of Rajouri and Poonch that left one person dead, officials said.

Srinagar and other areas in Kashmir were also pounded by torrential rains, ending a prolonged heatwave during which the Valley had experienced the hottest July day in more than 70 years.

A cloudburst occurred in Khorai Wala Bela Bala of Loran tehsil in Poonch, where a person identified as Gulam Mohammed lost his life, the officials said.

The intense rainfall trig-



gered a surge in water levels, landslide-like conditions and flash floods in the area this evening, they said, adding that the Loran road was blocked.

Local authorities and rescue teams rushed to the site to assess the situation and

carry out relief operations. Gulam Mohammad's body was recovered about 400 metres away and handed over to his family after necessary legal formalities, they said. The officials have urged residents in the higher

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