

03 Waqf creating digital record base of all assets & properties: Dr Darakhshan

LG appeals people to join efforts in making J&K drug-free

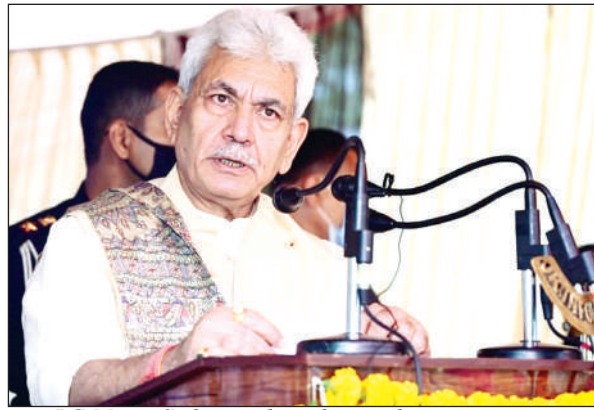
UT Admn formulating policies to engage youth in governance process

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

GANDERBAL: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Sunday appealed the people to join the efforts of UT Government, Youth Clubs, Social Welfare Department, Sports Council, and District Administrations in their fight against drug-menace and keeping youth away from drugs and work together to achieve a drug-free Jammu Kashmir.

"Government is formulating policies that engages youth in governance process and ensures their participation in on-the-ground implementation", Sinha said at the closing ceremony of Kashmir Mega Football Tournament at Sehpora, Ganderbal, adding that only youth has the potential to light up the society and transform several vital matters related to social welfare.

The tournament was organized by Voice for Peace



LG Manoj Sinha speaking during closing ceremony of Kashmir Mega Football Tournament at Ganderbal on Sunday.

& Justice (NGO) in collaboration with J&K Sports Council under Special Activity Program of My Youth My Pride (Phase-II) and witnessed participation of young talents of the region as well as Football players from foreign countries including Nigeria, Brazil and South Africa.

"We are witnessing unifying power of sports and personal transformation of youth, who are emerging as creative leaders of the society", the Lt Governor further said.

Terming Youth as the real wealth of the country, the Lt Governor said, we have a moral responsibility and moral obligation to make

sure the young generation has opportunity to blossom. Young men and women in villages and towns are vibrant partners of the government to achieve the ultimate goal of building a peaceful and prosperous UT.

The Lt Governor said that targeted schemes under Mission Youth have been crafted to empower the youth. It provides Youth opportunities to become ambassadors of innovation, peace, progress and sports, he added.

Livelihood Generation Programmes, Skill Development, Counselling, Sports, Recreation and Financial Assistance by the government have brought a new revolution in youth empowerment in the last two years, he further added.

In the financial year 2021-22 alone, 1.76 lakh young boys and girls have

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03 Cardiac ailments in rural women, Tip of Iceberg: Dr Sushil

10 Indian team storms into finals of 21st Asian Men's U-20 Volleyball C'ship



Asia Cup 2022: Jubilant Team India as Hardik Pandya finishes in style to defeat Pakistan by 5 wickets. (Details on Page 10)

J&K Admn cancels Finance AA, JE recruitment lists; recommends CBI probe

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir administration on Sunday cancelled the recruitment of Finance Accounts Assistants (FAAs) and Junior Engineers (JEs) and recommended a CBI probe into the selection process.

It assured all aspirants that those responsible for alleged discrepancies will not be spared and there won't be any

compromise on merit.

"JKSSB FAAs & JE Civil recruitment has been cancelled and a CBI probe recommended into the selection process," the Directorate of Information and Public Relations tweeted.

"Fresh recruitment process for FAAs and JE Civil will start soon," it added.

Finance accounts assistant (FAA) aspirants have been protesting for the

last few weeks here against the possible quashing of the merit list over alleged discrepancies.

Earlier, Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha cancelled the selection of police sub-inspector after alleged irregularities in the recruitment process surfaced. He also ordered a CBI probe into the recruitment process.

Vaishno Devi Shrine to get Skywalk for better crowd management by November

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: After introducing Radio Frequency Identity Cards (RFID) to keep a track on the movement of pilgrims, the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB) has started work on the much needed Skywalk which would help separate the incoming and outgoing pilgrims near the Bhawan area.

The skywalk with a length of 200 metres and width of 2.5 metres is expected to be completed by November at a cost of over Rs 9.89 crore to allow smooth movement of inbound pilgrims, an official of the SMVDSB said.

He said the facility, 20 feet above the track level, will help overcome the problem of multidirectional flow of yatra and a chaotic condition between Manokamna Bhawan and Gate No-3, the scene of stampede on New Year's Day in which 12 people lost their lives and 16 others were injured.

It was the first such tragedy at the shrine, where pilgrims reach after a 13-km trek from the base camp Katra, following which Lt Governor Manoj Sinha, who is also the chairperson of the SMVDSB, had announced several decisions to

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India aims to be self-reliant in energy sector in 25 yrs: Modi

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

GANDHINAGAR: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday said India aims to be self-reliant in the energy sector in the next 25 years and electric vehicle, which is leading a "silent revolution", has a key role to play in achieving it.

With a major part of energy consumption being in the transport sector, the prime minister said innovation in this sector should be a priority.

"It is our goal that India becomes Aatm Nirbhar for its energy needs in the next 25 years of Amrit Kaal," Modi said while addressing a programme held to mark 40 years of Suzuki Motor Corporation in India at the Mahatma Mandir convention centre here.

He further said, "As a major part of energy consumption is in the transport sector, innovation and (research) efforts



in this sector should be our priority. I am confident we will be able to achieve this."

Modi, who also laid the foundation stone of Suzuki Motor Gujarat's new EV battery plant and Maruti Suzuki's new plant at Sonapat, in Haryana, stressed on the importance of promoting EVs in the country.

One of the great features of EVs, is that they are silent, be it two-wheeler or four-wheeler, they don't make any noise, he said.

This silence is not only about its engineering, but it is also the beginning of a silent revolution in the country," Modi said, adding the EV market in India at present is growing at such a rapid pace which could not have been imagined a few years back.

The prime minister said various incentives such as rebates in income tax and a simplified loan process have been provided to EV buyers as part of the government's efforts

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Supertech twin towers razed to ground

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NOIDA: The Supertech twin towers in Noida were demolished on Sunday, a year after the Supreme Court's direction to raze the illegally built structures to the ground.

The nearly 100-metre-high structures taller than Delhi's iconic Qutub Minar (73 metres) were brought to the ground in seconds literally like a house of cards by the 'waterfall implosion' technique, in a breathtaking spectacle of modern day engineering.

They were the tallest structures to be demolished in India.



The Apex (32 floors) and Ceyane (29 floors) towers were under

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More than 40 pc of Ram temple construction work complete in Ayodhya

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

AYODHYA (UP): More than 40 per cent of the construction of the Ram temple in Ayodhya has been completed within two years of the groundbreaking ceremony conducted by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, according to officials of the trust entrusted with the responsibility.

Devotees from all over the world could pay obeisance to the deity from December 2023, Champat Rai, general secretary, Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Trust, told PTI.

Construction as well as demolition activities for improving the roads around the temple are also on in full swing, the trust officials said.

"More than 40 per cent of the temple construction work is complete. More than 80 per cent of the plinth work is done. Darshan at the temple is likely to start

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J&K touches new developmental heights, good governance in last 3 years: Meghwal



Union Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal briefing media at Anantnag on Sunday.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

ANANTNAG: The Union Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs and Culture, Arjun Ram

Meghwal on Sunday said that from last three years, the mantra of development and good governance of Prime Minister Narendra

Modi has reached new heights in Jammu and Kashmir which is evident at the ground level with the total implementation of all the Central Government Schemes. The Minister said this while interacting with the media during a press briefing held at Dak Bungalow, Anantnag.

While addressing media here, Meghwal said that the development and peace in J&K is touching new heights that is evident from this year's record number of the arrival of tourists. The tourist destinations are to

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152 fresh COVID cases in J&K, 4 in Ladakh

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir on Sunday recorded 152 fresh COVID-19 cases that pushed its infection tally to 4,77,456, officials said.

The death toll remained unchanged at 4,782, they said.

Of the fresh cases, 28 were reported from the Jammu division and 124 from the Kashmir valley, the officials said.

There are 1,549 active COVID-19 cases in the union territory. So far, 4,71,125 people have recovered from the viral disease, they said.

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Congress President election to be held on Oct 17

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The Congress Working Committee (CWC) announced a revised schedule for its long-awaited election for the party president on Sunday. The polling will take place on October 17 and the results will be announced on October 19.

Party leaders suggested that it is unlikely that a number of candidates will be in the fray. The party High Command is keen to see Rajasthan chief minister Ashok Gehlot take charge of the party as the next president.

CWC approved the final schedule of dates suggested by the Central Election Authority of the All India Congress Committee (AICC) for election to the post of Congress president in a meeting on Sunday.

The date of notification is September 22, 2022 and candidates can file their nomination between September 24 and 30.

The last date of withdrawal will be October 8.

"Date of Election (if needed): October 17th, 2022 (Monday) 10am to 4pm. Date of Counting and Declaration of Result (if

needed): October 19th, 2022 (Wednesday) 10am onwards," announced a Congress press release.

The CWC also reiterated "its resolve to make the Mehngai Par Halla Bol rally in New Delhi on September 4th and the launch of the Bharat Jodo Yatra from Kanyakumari on September 7th and its continuation thereafter a resounding success."

For the past three years Sonia Gandhi has been in charge as the interim president after Rahul Gandhi stepped down as the

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WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 35.1°C Min: 25.3°C

Humidity
Max: 86 Min: 54

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 29.5°C Min: 16.4°C

Humidity
Max: 86 Min: 64

Sunset : 19:03 Hours
Sunrise : 06:04 Hours

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Former J&K Chief Minister and former Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha Ghulam Nabi Azad on Sunday indicated some more Congress leaders quitting the party in near future.

"I am sure many more leaders will quit the Congress. Anyone who is self-respecting should. But let me tell you, I will never ever join BJP", Azad said in an exclusive interview telecast on national TV channel CNN News-18.

Azad added, "I am starting my party in Kashmir. For now, it is based there, but we will build it into a national party."

Ghulam Nabi Azad resigned from the Congress on Friday, blaming Rahul Gandhi and his close coterie for the electoral decline of the party.

Azad will soon travel through Jammu and Kashmir, as he floats his party which he says will soon grow into a national one as he thinks more leaders from the Congress could leave. However, Azad

made it clear that he "won't join the BJP ever"

In his first exclusive interview after he quit the Congress, Ghulam Nabi Azad hit out at the party and Rahul Gandhi. Reiterating every point from his five-page letter, he said the Congress under Gandhis has been filled with sycophants and has failed to win even one election.

Azad's comments come at a time when the Congress has finalised its schedule for the polls for the post of party president on October 17 and has planned an ambitious Bharat Jodo Yatra to hit the streets to regain lost ground.

Replying to a question as to why he had written a five-page letter and its contents, Azad said, "Let me tell you, I took three days to write it and I couldn't sleep for all this time. And even after I wrote the letter, I couldn't sleep. I kept cutting some excerpts as I did not want to sound harsh. But what I have written is just the tip of the iceberg. It's just 5 per cent of what I



feel. But I couldn't avoid writing it. I have been telling them, sending letters, but got no response. How long can I tolerate the humiliation I have been receiving from them?"

Azad said that the Congress is now a party of sycophants. "It is about Jee Hazuri and a group close to Rahul Gandhi. And he keeps stressing the need for young people. What is this about old people not being useful? How old was Mahatma Gandhi when he ousted the British? What about Indira Gandhi when she defeated the Janta Party? You can't have a party of only 30- or 40-year-olds. And Rahul Gandhi's style has not won any elections. Since January 2013, Rahul Gandhi has been calling the shots and taking all decisions. But we have been travelling and hitting the ground. We travelled in buses and trucks and even got hurt. You can't run a party on Twitter by being away. The Congress is doing a Bharat Jodo Yatra, but it needs a Congress Jodo Yatra more. This Bharat Jodo Yatra won't achieve anything."

When asked about Prime Minister Narendra Modi getting emotional while bidding adieu to him in Rajya Sabha,

Azad elaborately explained, "I was called a traitor and back-stabber. My letter began with a mention of Pt Nehru and Indira Gandhi. Then all my letter spoke about what we think should change. But Rahul Gandhi just jumped and said that I was speaking the language of the BJP. This is ridiculous. I was the only one who never spoke to Modi even though I was the Leader of Opposition. I never went to meet him on personal level. I never rushed to hug the PM. Rahul Gandhi did all the drama. They are making the point that the PM shed tears for me. But that's something I explained earlier. He knew I was emotional when some Gujarati tourists died in Kashmir during a terror attack when I was the CM. When the PM cried, it showed he has feelings. My party didn't. When I got the outstanding parliamentary award, it was not an award given by Modi. Everyone came, but no president of my party was present. If you remember when

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